



№ THREE

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MATURE
READERS

RIP OFF
PRESS

ILLUMINATUS!





Suite 269
3721 S. Westenedge Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49005

Well, folks, this is a first....I finished the last lettercol a month behind deadline, and I'm **STARTING** this one the day after I shipped the last one. I think I'm starting to get the hang of this bi-monthly schedule.

Thanks to all of you for your support on this project. It's been a long, hard road sometimes getting here. Believe me, if it weren't for some of the nice things that readers have written me over the last few years, I wouldn't have had the dedication necessary to do this work. It's all for you, folks.

Now, since I **STILL** have yet to receive any letters on the new 1st issue (hint, hint), I'll dig into the **OLD** mail folder once again:

**Unborn Voters for Future Voting If Not Sooner
Already**

**Mike Shea for President.....and Dan Barron for
V.P. or Vice Versa in 2008 Vote Libertarian
Again Be.**

HISTORICAL DOCUMENT

Dear M.P.S., NO JIVE Shalom

The "Illuminati was originally known as "Perfec-tabilitlisten", that was Weishaupt's word.

Please support voter rights for the unborne. I am undead, and refuse to die, at this time. OM. I hope that next time you don't want an abortion you will never should have to have one dude. Eris is Loki in drag, and, of course, Lassie, as "The Beaver".

Hole in Law: Due Bee, Do be, dew. Even as unto. Issiah 36:12. So mote it be.

Read the **OTHER** "New Age" Magazine, it was first.

Salam. Oh, yup I would like a comic book.

Rev. Col. Marc R. Wruble
PO Box 2957
Anaheim, CA 92814-2957

????? What can I say about that?????

May 11, year of *their* lord, 1989

Greetings, Chao-Meisters—

The lonely boy felt trapped by the forced meditation he found in his cell. Machines, controllong machines, controlling machines, ad infinittummmmmmm... The wheels of "sanity" and "reality" spun 'round, and yet he sensed that this false law and false order was not the way of things. By lucky chance, he found in his hands a copy of **ILLUMINATUS!**, and nothing was ever the same. He threw himself into the myth/reality with a zeal seldom equaled except by the automans at his high school cheering wildly for the other automans they called "basketball players" to throw a ball through a hoop. He devoured a lot of Wilson books, and then, finally, the *Principia Discordia* presented itself.

LUX

Send me all you can.

Hail Eris!

All Hail Discordia!

Light and Laughter,
Blank-Rat

"Entropy requires no maintenance."

That exhausts my old letter file, now we'll move on to comments on the **NEW** 1st issue (as soon as I get any...)

And now, for something of a different tone. I apologize in advance for any slight factual inaccuracies, as I am writing this from memory rather than consulting all the relevant documentation.

When the original *Illuminatus!* #1 was printed, I half-jokingly put strange pseudonyms in for a number of the personnel involved with publishing this work...partially to continue the old Discordian tradition of using humorous names, and partially as a precaution about any problems people might eventually have by having their names associated with this work. I know...seems paranoid, right?

Well, shortly after the publication of the comic, several things happened that confirmed my perverse instinct to keep people's names private. In Lansing, IL., a Friendly Frank's comic outlet got busted by the local police, and the man in charge was accused of selling pornography. Among the comics accused was a delightful strip called *Omaha the Cat Dancer*.

Continued on page 31...

The Purple Sage cursed, & waxed
Sorely pissed



A POX UPON THE
ACCURSED
ILLUMINATI OF
BAVARIA; MAY
THEIR SEED TAKE
NO ROOT!!

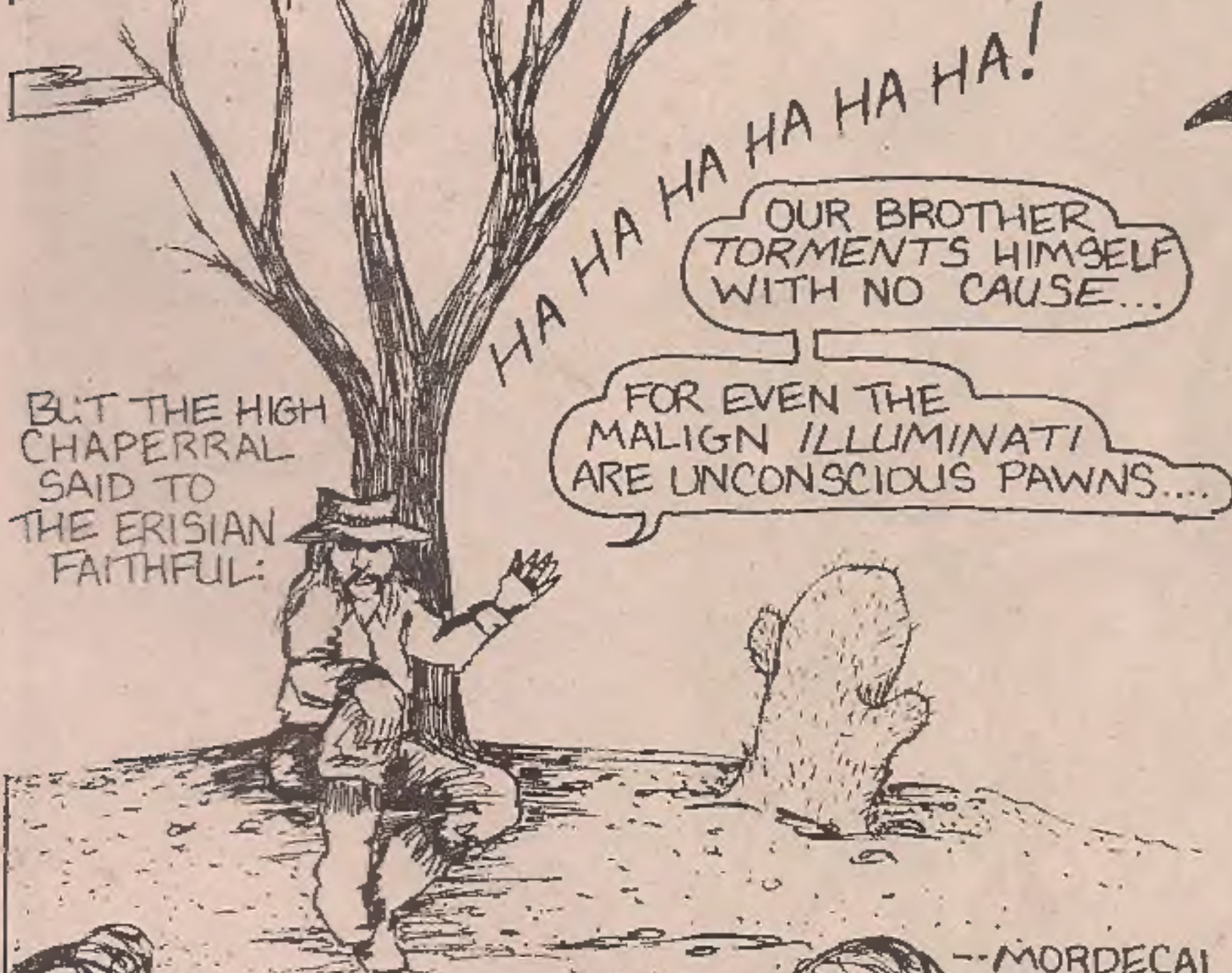
MAY THEIR HANDS TREMBLE, THEIR EYES
& THEIR SPINES CURL
UP LIKE SNAILS!
MAY THE VAGINAS
OF THEIR
WOMEN BE
CLOGGED WITH
BRILLO PADS!



THEY HAVE SINNED AGAINST GODE
NATURE! THEY HAVE MADE LIFE A
PRISON! THEY HAVE STOLEN THE
GREEN FROM THE GRASS AND THE
BLUE FROM THE SKY!!



AND SO SAYING, THE PURPLE
SAGE LEFT THE WORLD &
RETIRED TO THE DESERT.



HA HA HA HA HA HA!

OUR BROTHER
TORMENTS HIMSELF
WITH NO CAUSE...

FOR EVEN THE
MALIGN ILLUMINATI
ARE UNCONSCIOUS PAWNS...

BUT THE HIGH
CHAPERRAL
SAID TO
THE ERISIAN
FAITHFUL:



--MORDECAI
MALIGNATUS,
K.N.S., "THE
BOOK OF
CONTRADICTIONS," LIBER
555.



OF THE DIVINE
PLANE OF OUR
LADY!

JOE MALIK IS MISSING. THE OFFICES OF CONFRONTATION, THE MAGAZINE HE EDITS, HAVE BEEN BOMBED.

TWO NEW YORK POLICE OFFICERS STRUGGLE TO MAKE SENSE OF JOE'S INVESTIGATION OF THE MYSTERIOUS ILLUMINATI.

PLAGUE AND NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST LOOM ON THE HORIZON. THE END IS IMMINENT.

BUT, FOR JOE...

WE SHALL NOT BE MOVED!

...IT HAD BEGUN IN LINCOLN PARK, CHICAGO, AUG. 27, 1968, PROVOKED BY HUMPHREY'S IMMINENT PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION.

THEY SHOULD ERECT A TOMBSTONE INSTEAD, SAYING "HERE LIES THE NEW DEAL..."

"...HERE LIES THE BELIEF THAT ALL EVIL'S ON THE OTHER SIDE... 20 YEARS OF HOPES AND DREAMS..."

ILLUMINATUS!

THEY'RE COMING!

ALLEN GINSBERG AND A HUDDLE OF YIPPIES CHANTED:

"...HERE LIES AMERICAN LIBERALISM, CLUBBED TO DEATH BY CHICAGO'S HEROIC PEACE OFFICERS."

Ye 3RD Trip, OR BINAH

Adapted from the trilogy 1975 by Robert J. Shea & Anton Wilson

Adaptation by Icarus
PART I:

Pencils: A.C. Fish (pp. 1, 13)
Eric Burza (layouts) and too many hands (pp. 2-4, 6-13)
P. Eric Piccione (p. 5)

Inks: Fish (pp. 1, 13, and touchups), M.P. Steele (pp. 2-10), J.T. Kovach (p. 11 and part of 12), and others

Lettering: Fish (pp. 1, 13), Steele (pp. 2-8), Cat Sprague (pp. 9-10), Kovach (pp. 11-12)

Zipatone: Steele

Collage: The Righteous Dervish and Steele
Eris (p. 1): Paul Nehring, pencils & inks

Special thanks to J.T. for 11+ hour work on p. 8/18-3

GINSBERG BELIEVED, ABOVE ALL, IN THE NATURAL GOODNESS OF MAN.

A YOUNG MAN NAMED
SIMON SHOUTED:



THAT
WAS THE
LAST
SENTENCE
JOE
REMEMBERS
CLEARLY...



JOE HAD NO WAY OF GUESSING THAT HEARING THAT SENTENCE WAS
THE MOST IMPORTANT THING THAT HAPPENED TO HIM IN LINCOLN PARK.

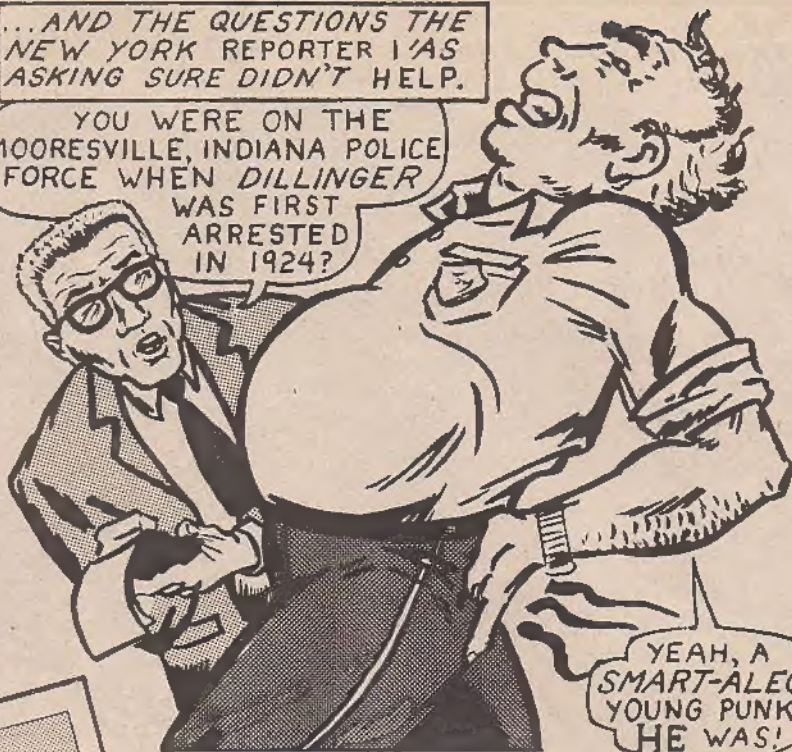
JUNE 25, 1969: OFF A ROAD RUNNING FROM DAYTON, OHIO TOWARD NEW LEBANON LIVES JAMES V. RILEY, A DAYTON POLICE SERGEANT.



JAMES WAS OUT OF SORTS TODAY...

...AND THE QUESTIONS THE NEW YORK REPORTER WAS ASKING SURE DIDN'T HELP.

YOU WERE ON THE MOORESVILLE, INDIANA POLICE FORCE WHEN DILLINGER WAS FIRST ARRESTED IN 1924?



YEAH, A SMART-ALECKY YOUNG PUNK HE WAS!

"A BAD APPLE FROM THE START! YOUNG PUNKS LIKE THAT NEVER GET LONG ENOUGH SENTENCES."



"MORE TIME MIGHT SLOW 'EM DOWN A BIT."

YES, YES, WE NEED STRICTER LAWS...BUT WHERE WAS DILLINGER'S MISSING TOOTH, ON THE RIGHT OR LEFT?

SAINTS IN HEAVEN!



YOU EXPECT ME TO REMEMBER THAT?

SOME PSYCHOLOGISTS SAY WE NEVER FORGET ANYTHING!

TRY TO PICTURE DILLINGER: WHICH SIDE WAS THE MISSING TOOTH ON?



LISTEN, I'M ON DUTY IN A FEW MINUTES-

ARE YOU A MASON?

BEJESUS. NO! I'VE BEEN A CATHOLIC ALL MY LIFE!



DID YOU KNOW ANY IN MOORESVILLE?

WHY WOULD I TALK TO THE LIKES OF THEM?

DILLINGER'S 1ST ROBBERY VICTIM SUMMONED HELP WITH...

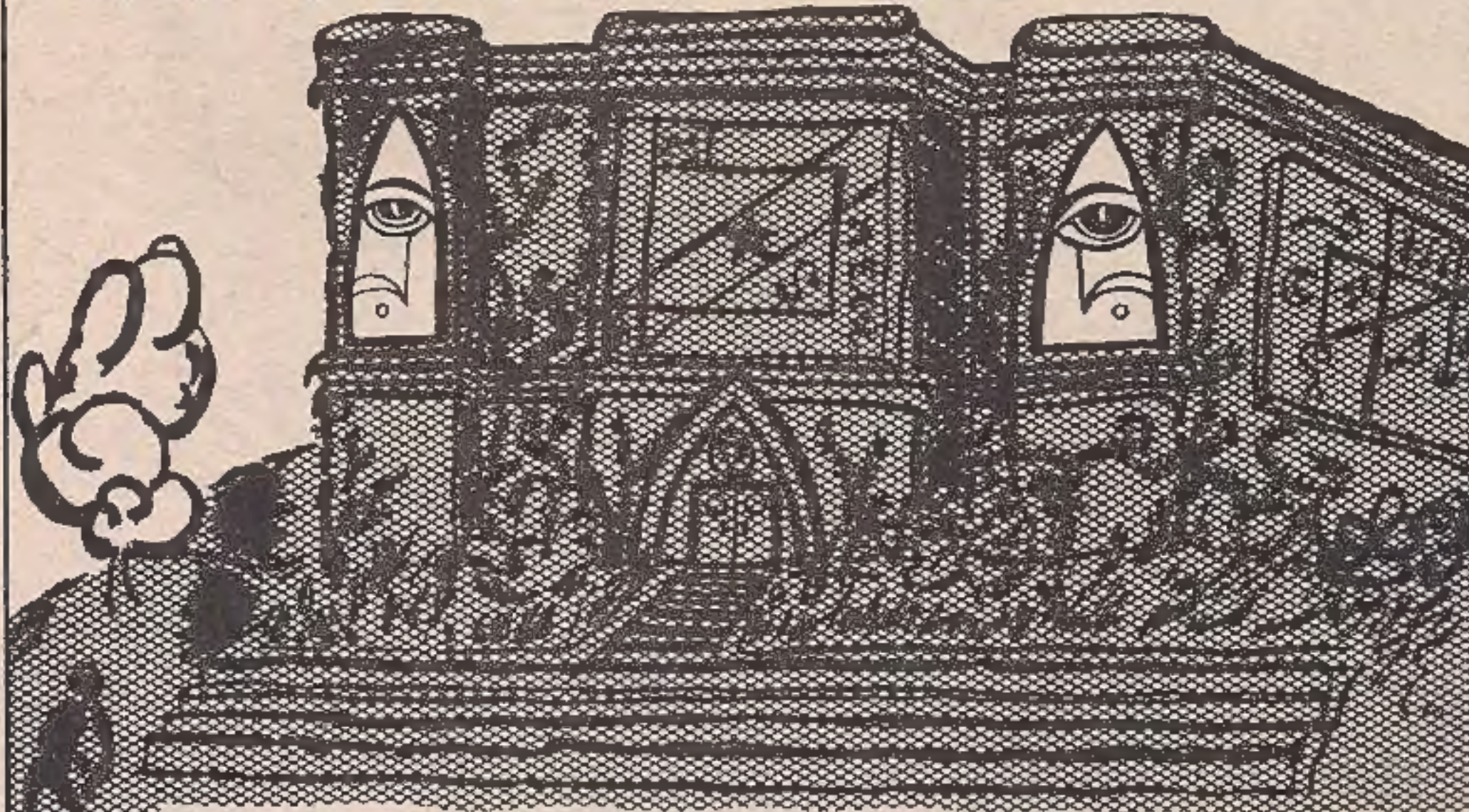
...THE MASONIC DISTRESS SIGNAL. DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT IS?



--ASK A MASON-- IF HE'LL TELL YOU.

THE REPORTER FINALLY LEFT. STRANGE BOOK HE WAS WRITING...

JUNE 26, 1969: MISKATONIC UNIVERSITY, ARKHAM, MASSACHUSETTS: NOT A WELL KNOWN CAMPUS BY ANY MEANS.



THE FEW ODD VISITORS WERE USUALLY DRAWN BY THE DOCTOR HENRY ARMITAGE COLLECTION OF OCCULT BOOKS.

LIBRARIAN DORIS HORUS WASN'T SURPRISED AT THE FURTIVE MAN'S REQUEST.



I'M PROF. MALLISON OF DAYTON, OHIO... I'D LIKE TO SEE DR. JOHN DEE'S TRANSLATION...

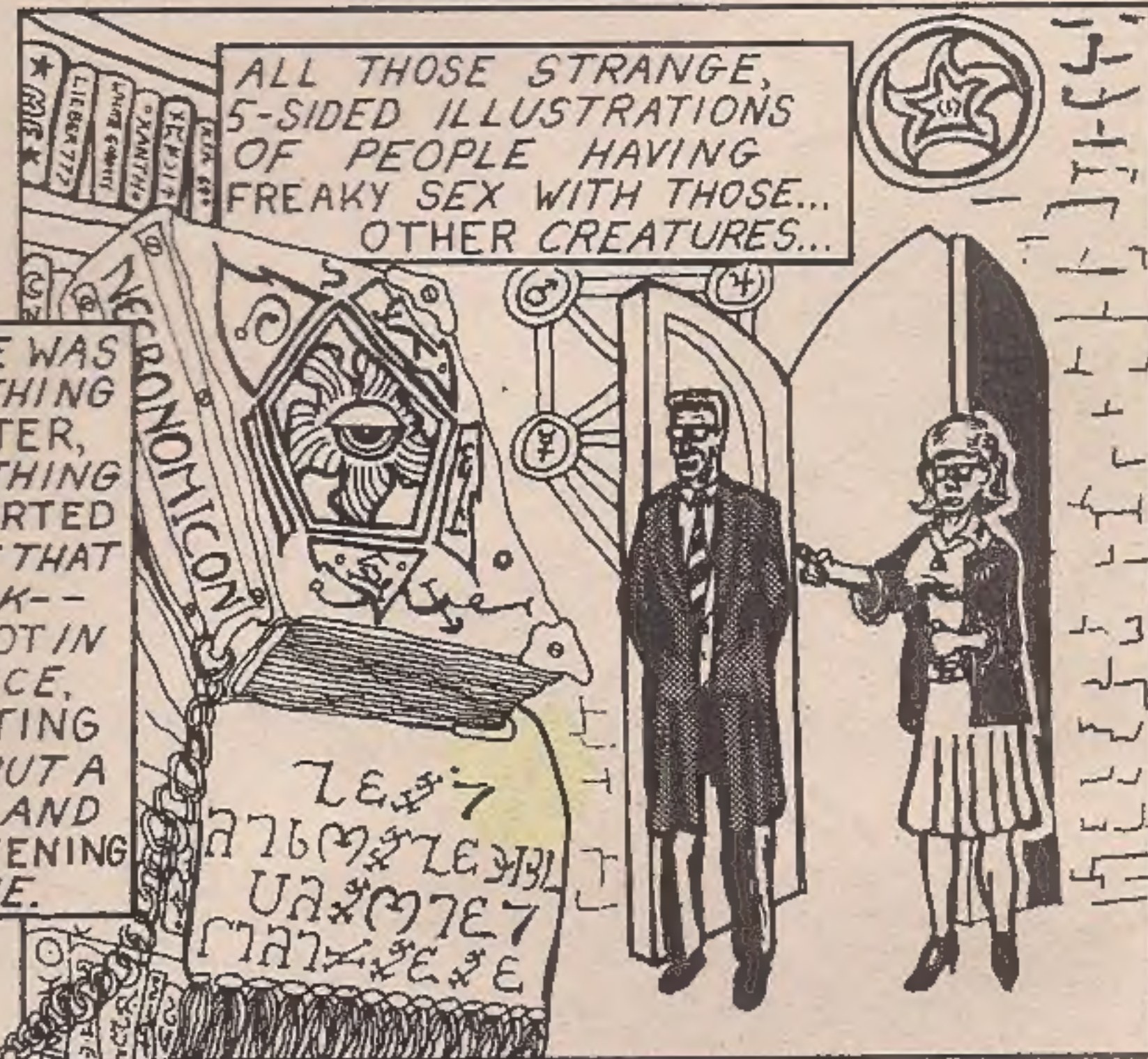
...OF ABDUL ALHAZRED'S **NECRONOMICON**

THAT WAS THE BOOK MOST OF THE QUEER ONES WENT FOR. DORIS DIDN'T LIKE THE **NECRONOMICON**.



THERE WAS SOMETHING SINISTER, SOMETHING PERVERTED ABOUT THAT BOOK-- AND NOT IN A NICE, EXCITING WAY, BUT A SICK AND FRIGHTENING ONE.

ALL THOSE STRANGE, 5-SIDED ILLUSTRATIONS OF PEOPLE HAVING FREAKY SEX WITH THOSE... OTHER CREATURES...

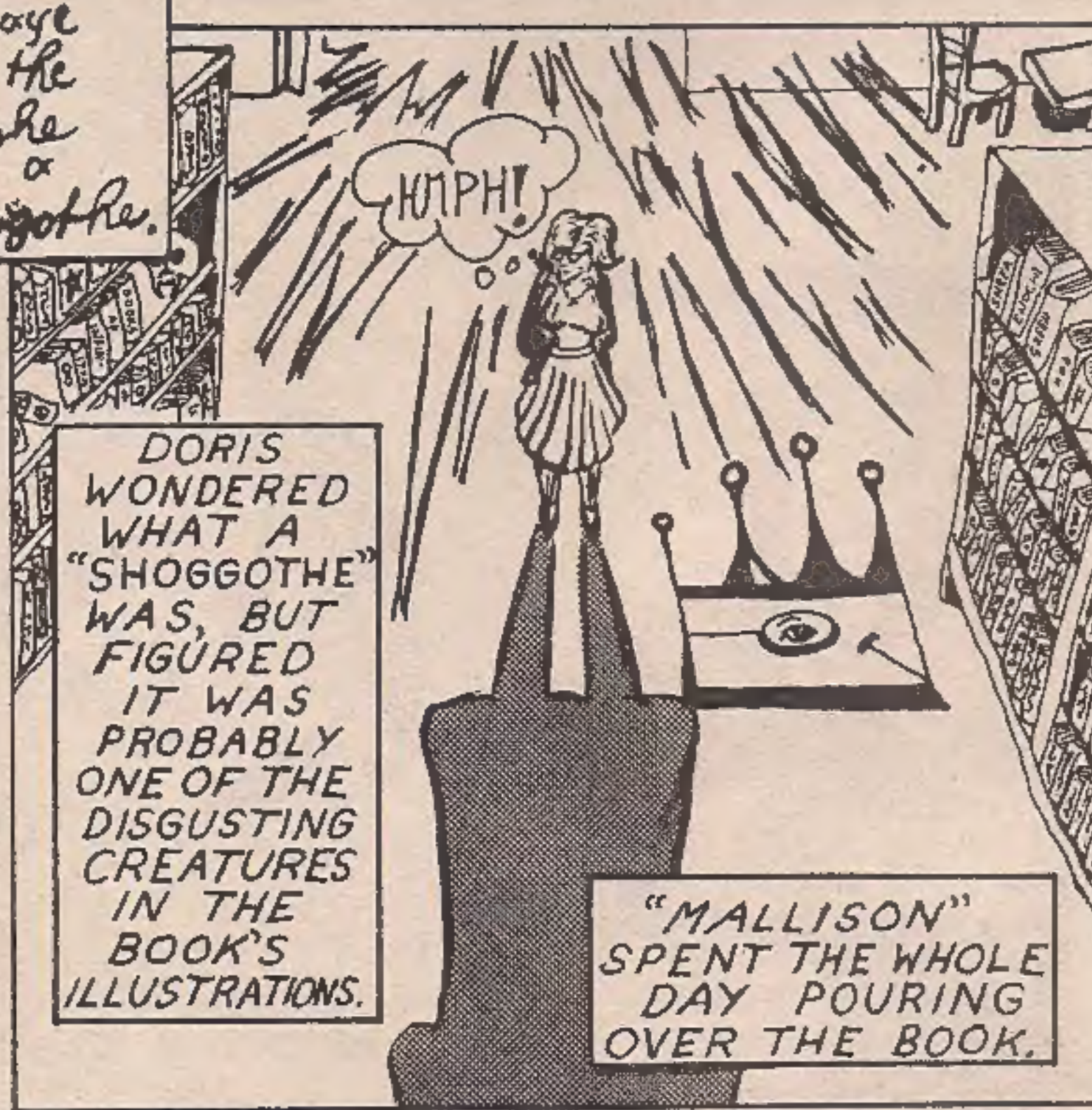


On lie those who have eaten, or certain alcoholoid herbe, whose name it were wise not to disclose to the unilluminated...



...maye in the fleshe see a Shoggothe.

DORIS WONDERED WHAT A "SHOGGOTHE" WAS, BUT FIGURED IT WAS PROBABLY ONE OF THE DISGUSTING CREATURES IN THE BOOK'S ILLUSTRATIONS.



"MALLISON" SPENT THE WHOLE DAY POURING OVER THE BOOK.

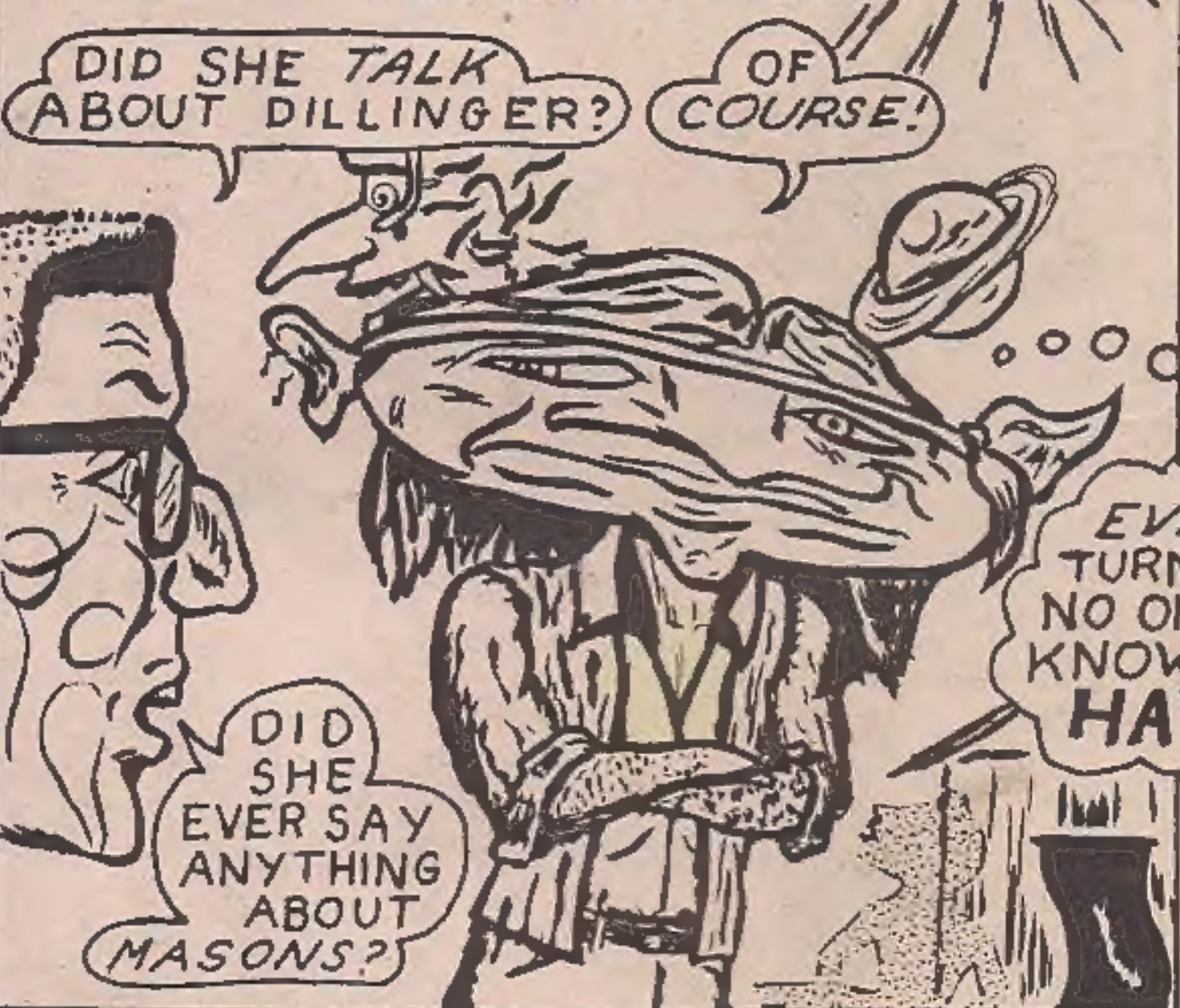
JAMES WALKING BEAR HAD NO LOVE FOR PALEFACES, BUT HE'D DROPPED 6 PEYOTE BUTTONS AND WAS FEELING FORGIVING...



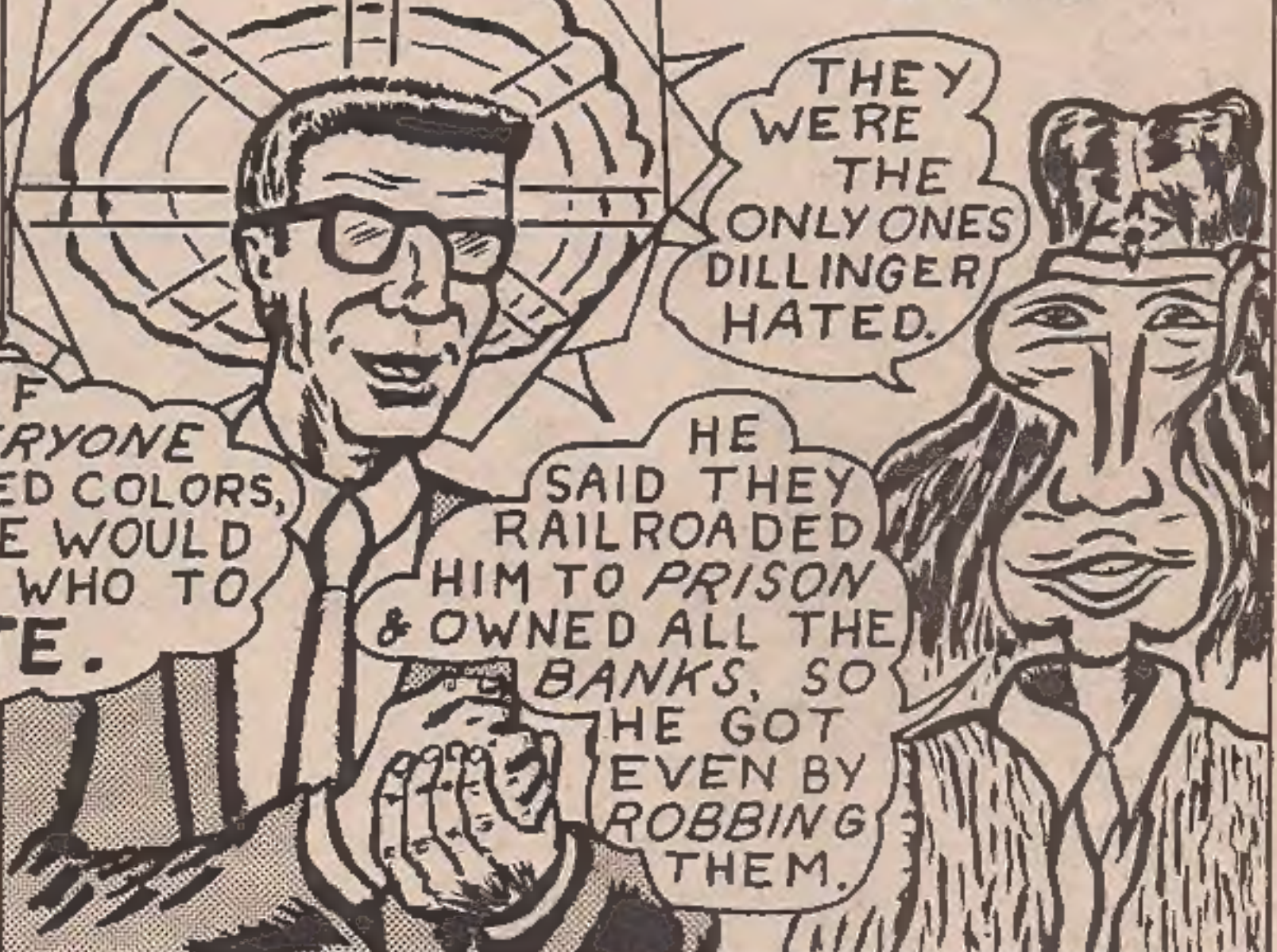
OF HER MAN DILLINGER? YOU'RE **YEARS** TOO LATE! REPORTERS BOUGHT EVERYTHING LONG BEFORE SHE CAME HERE TO DIE.



THE PALEFACE TURNED COLORS. PEOPLE DO THAT WHEN YOU'RE ON PEYOTE...



JAMES WISHED A ROAD CHIEF WAS AROUND TO EXPLAIN THE SIGNS.



NOTE FOUND BY A TWA STEWARDESS IN A SEAT VACATED BY "JOHN MASON"...

"We only robbed from the banks what the banks robbed from the people" - Dillinger. Crown Point Jail, 1934. Could have come from any anarchist text. Lucifer - bringer of light. Weishaupt's "illumination". Latin "lux" meaning light. Christianity all in 3's (Trinity, etc.) Buddhism in 4's. Illuminism in 5's. A progression? Hopi teaching: all men have 4 souls now, but in future will have 5 souls. Find an anthropologist for more data on this. Who decided the Pentagon building should have that particular shape? "Pick out the Jams"??? Cross-check. "Adam, the 1st man; Weis, to know; haupt, chief or leader. The 1st man to be a leader of those who know." Assumed names from the beginning. IOK-SOTOT in Prakotic manuscripts. Cd. be Yag-Bothoth? D.E.A.T.H. - Don't Ever Antagonize The Horn. Does Pynchon know? Must get Simon to explain the Yellow Sign and the Ahlo chants. Might need protection. C. says the h. neophobe type outnumbers us 1000-to-1. If so, all this is hopeless. What gets me is how much has been out in the open for so long. Not just in Lovecraft, Joyce, Melville, etc., or in the Bass Bunny cartoons but in scholarly works that pretend to explain. Anybody who wants to go to the trouble can find out, for instance, that of the Eleusinian Mysteries was the words whispered "Oasis is a black mushroom." Or, those who did not the magic mushroom, no historian, archaeologist, or, those who did

...AFTER A WISCONSIN-TO-MEXICO FLIGHT, JUNE 29, 1969:



OCTOBER 23, 1970:
THE **KNIGHTS OF CHRISTIANITY**
UNITED IN FAITH
MET AT A CHICAGO HOTEL.



THEIR PRESIDENT, "SMILING JIM" TREPOMENA, HAD NOTICED A BEARDED YOUNG MAN AMONG THE DELEGATES.



...WHILE THREE ROWS AHEAD, JOE MALIK SETTLED BACK COMFORTABLY.

THE FUNNY BUSINESS JOE AND SIMON HAD IN MIND WOULD BE VERY, VERY FUNNY INDEED!

THE PRESENT: APRIL 24th :
AFTER BEING LOST FOR AN HOUR, MARK BENT & HIS UBERMEN...



... FINALLY FIND LUDWIGSTRASSE...

... AND GET OUT OF MUNICH!

HEY-CHECK OUT THAT CAT AT THE WHEEL -- I SAW HIM ONCE BEFORE IN MEXICO CITY. FUNNY SEEING HIM AGAIN HERE!



GO CATCH HIM! WITH THE AMA, TRASHERS AND THE OTHERS PLAYING, WE'RE GOING TO GET BURIED ALIVE!



LET'S MAKE SURE HE KNOWS WE'RE IN INGOLSTADT FOR THIS GIG!

AND, IN THE GOLDEN SUBMARINE, GEORGE DORN, CONFRONTATION MAGAZINE REPORTER, RELAXES...



WILL YOU EAT ME IF I CAN'T GUESS THE RIDDLE? YOU REMIND ME OF A SPHINX.

I MODELED FOR IT! BUT NO RIDDLES...JUST AN ORDINARY QUESTION. HAGBARD WANTS TO KNOW IF YOU NEED ANYTHING.

ANYTHING BUT ME - I'VE WORK TO DO.



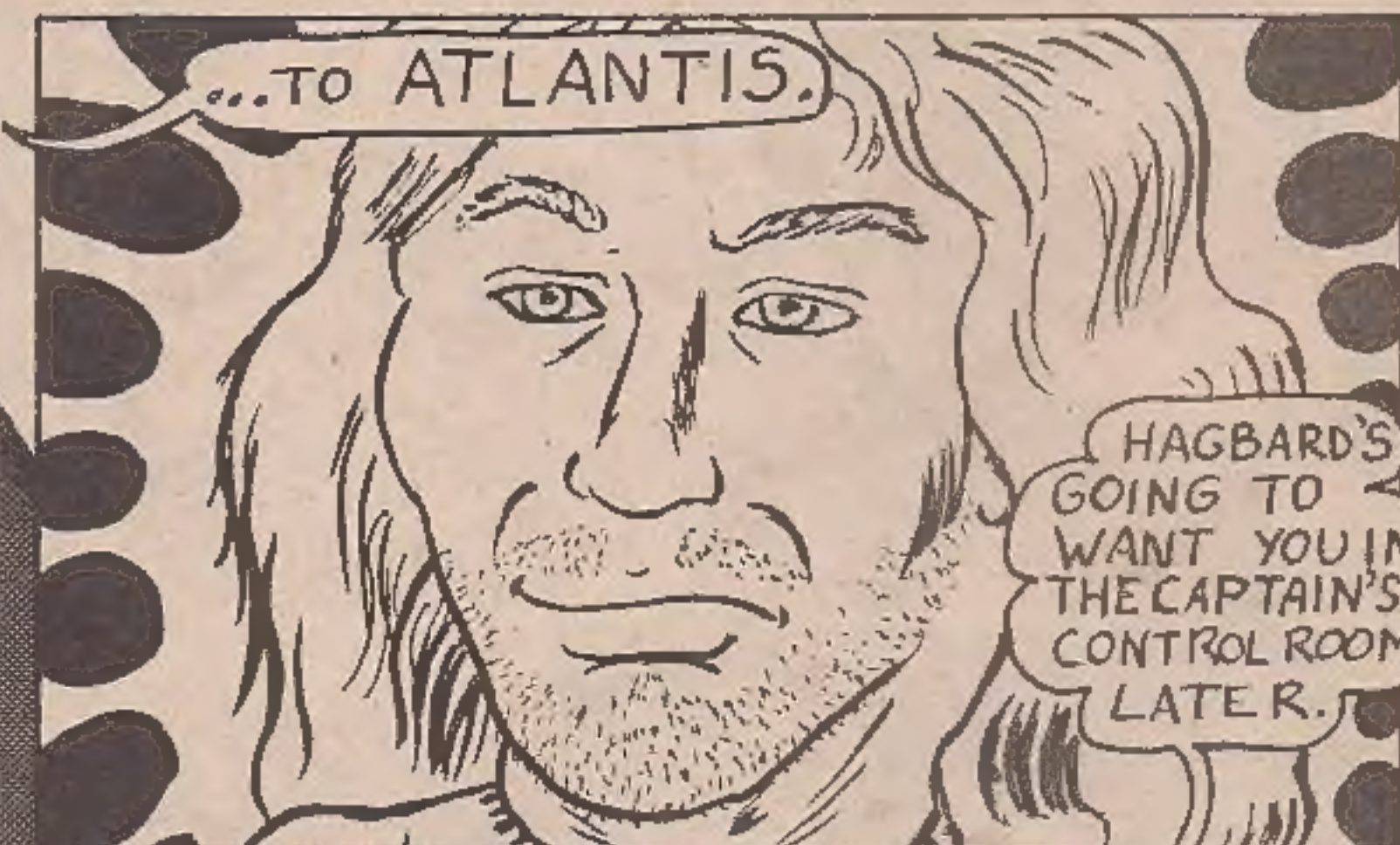
I'D LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT HAGBARD, THIS SUB, AND WHERE WE'RE GOING.

WE'RE GOING...



...TO ATLANTIS.

HAGBARD'S GOING TO WANT YOU IN THE CAPTAIN'S CONTROL ROOM LATER.



MEANWHILE, SMOKE SOME OF THIS.

HELPS TO PASS THE TIME. WE'VE A PLANTATION AND FACTORY IN BRAZIL.

HAGBARD MUST BE A WEALTHY MAN!



OH YEAH!
HE'S WORTH *BILLIONS*
OF TONS OF FLAY!

IF YOU NEED ANYTHING,
PRESS THE IVORY BUTTON
ON YOUR DESK.
SOMEONE WILL COME.
WE'LL BE CALLING
YOU LATER.

WHAT WAS
THAT WOMAN'S
NAME?

SCHM

ALL THINGS THAT ARE
ARE LIGHTS...

HAGBARD
MIGHT BE
EVIL,
LIKE A
19TH OR 18TH
CENTURY
ROBBER
BARON.

WHAT
THE *SUN*
DONE CAN'T
BE *UNDONE*,
BUT IS
WELL DUN.
THE QUINTESSENCE
AND NEMESIS OF
EVIL. GOD BLESS
US, EVERY ONE.

EVEN ONE. ODD, THE BIG
RED ONE. EYE THINK IT
WAS HIS I. THE EYE OF
APOLLO. HIS LUMINOUS I.
AUM SHIVA.

AYE,
TRUST
ME NOT.
TRUST
NOT A
MAN WHOSE
RICH IN
FLAX, HIS MORALS
MAY BE SADLY LAX.

HEE
HEE
HEE!

PRINCIPIA
DISCORDI

HER NAME IS
STELLA MARIS—
BLACK STAR
OF THE SEA...

GEORGE WALKED ON DOWN
THE HALL TO MEET WITH
HAGBARD...

FUCKUP
MAIN
FRAME

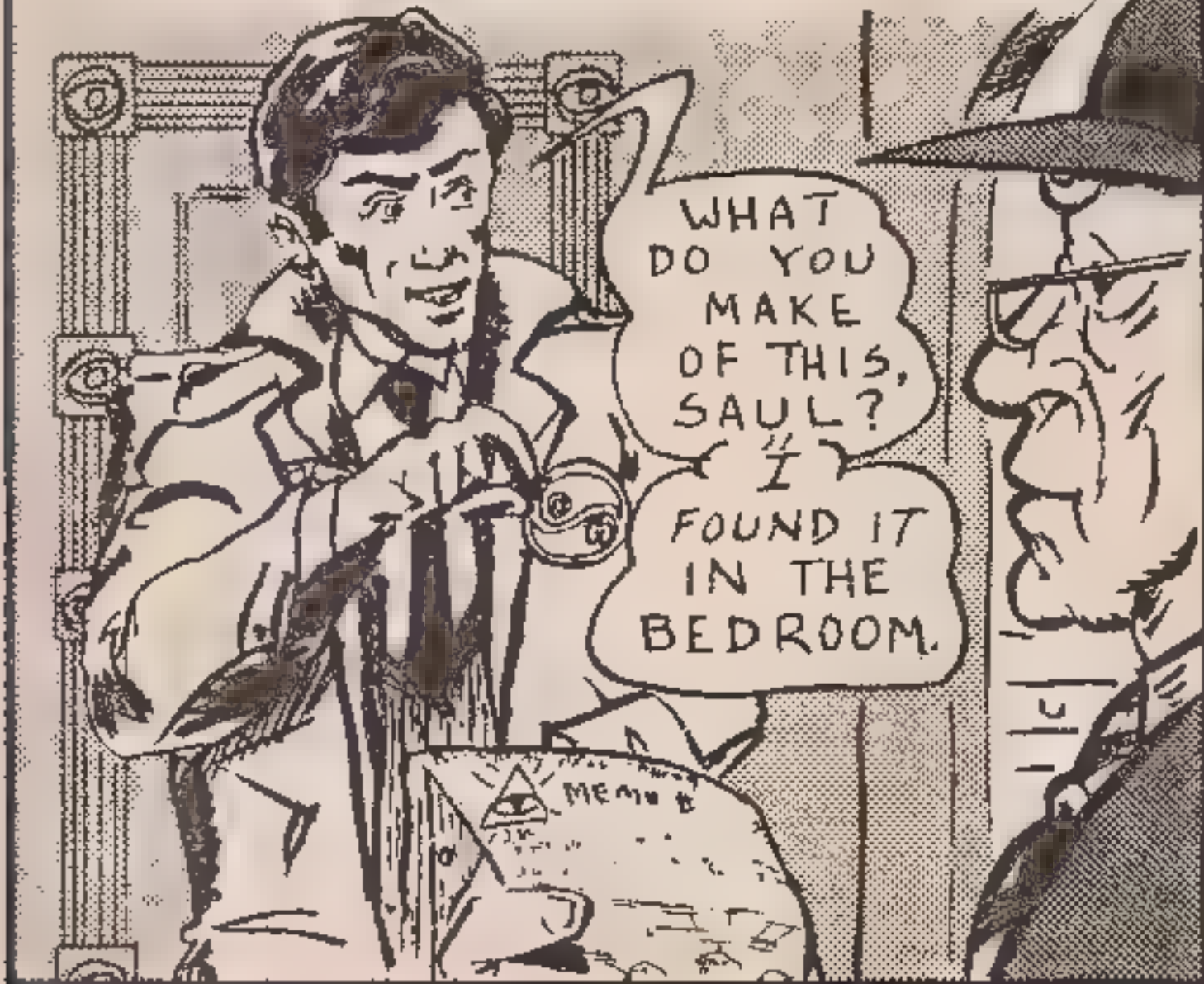
Capt.'s
Control
Room

George's
Stateroom

GEORGE,
I WANT YOU
IN THE CAPTAIN'S
CONTROL
ROOM.

...AND, ALTHOUGH HE
DIDN'T KNOW IT YET,
TO BECOME A MEMBER
OF THE LEGION OF
DYNAMIC DISCORD...

NEW YORK CITY, JOE MALIK'S APARTMENT:
SAUL GOODMAN & BARNEY MULDOON
ARE CONTINUING THEIR INVESTI-
GATION OF MALIK'S DISAPPEARANCE.



WHAT
DO YOU
MAKE
OF THIS,
SAUL?
I
FOUND IT
IN THE
BEDROOM.

PART OF IT'S
CHINESE...
THE YIN-YANG,
OR TAO.
//
IT MEANS THAT
OPPOSITES
ARE EQUAL.

AND
WHAT
DOES
THAT
MEAN?

BUT THE
PENTAGON
AND APPLE
AREN'T...

--WAIT!
THE APPLE
IS FROM
GREEK
MYTHOLOGY.



"THERE WAS A BANQUET ON MOUNT OLYMPUS.
ERIS WASN'T INVITED. SHE WAS THE GODDESS
OF DISCORD & ALWAYS MADE TROUBLE!"



"TO GET EVEN, SHE MADE A GOLDEN APPLE
AND WROTE ON IT:

BONK!

KALLISTI!

SPLASH!

CRACK!



"ALL THE GODDESSES
IMMEDIATELY TRIED
TO CLAIM IT."

* THAT
MEANS 'FOR THE PRETTIEST
ONE' IN GREEK."



"FINALLY
OLD MAN
ZEUS
LET PARIS
DECIDE
WHO GOT
THE
APPLE..."



"... HE CHOSE APHRODITE."

"SHE LET HIM KIDNAP HELEN OF TROY AS A REWARD, THAT LED TO THE TROJAN WAR."



SO, DOES THAT TELL US WHAT MALIK KNEW ABOUT THE ASSASSINATIONS. OR WHERE HE DISAPPEARED TO?

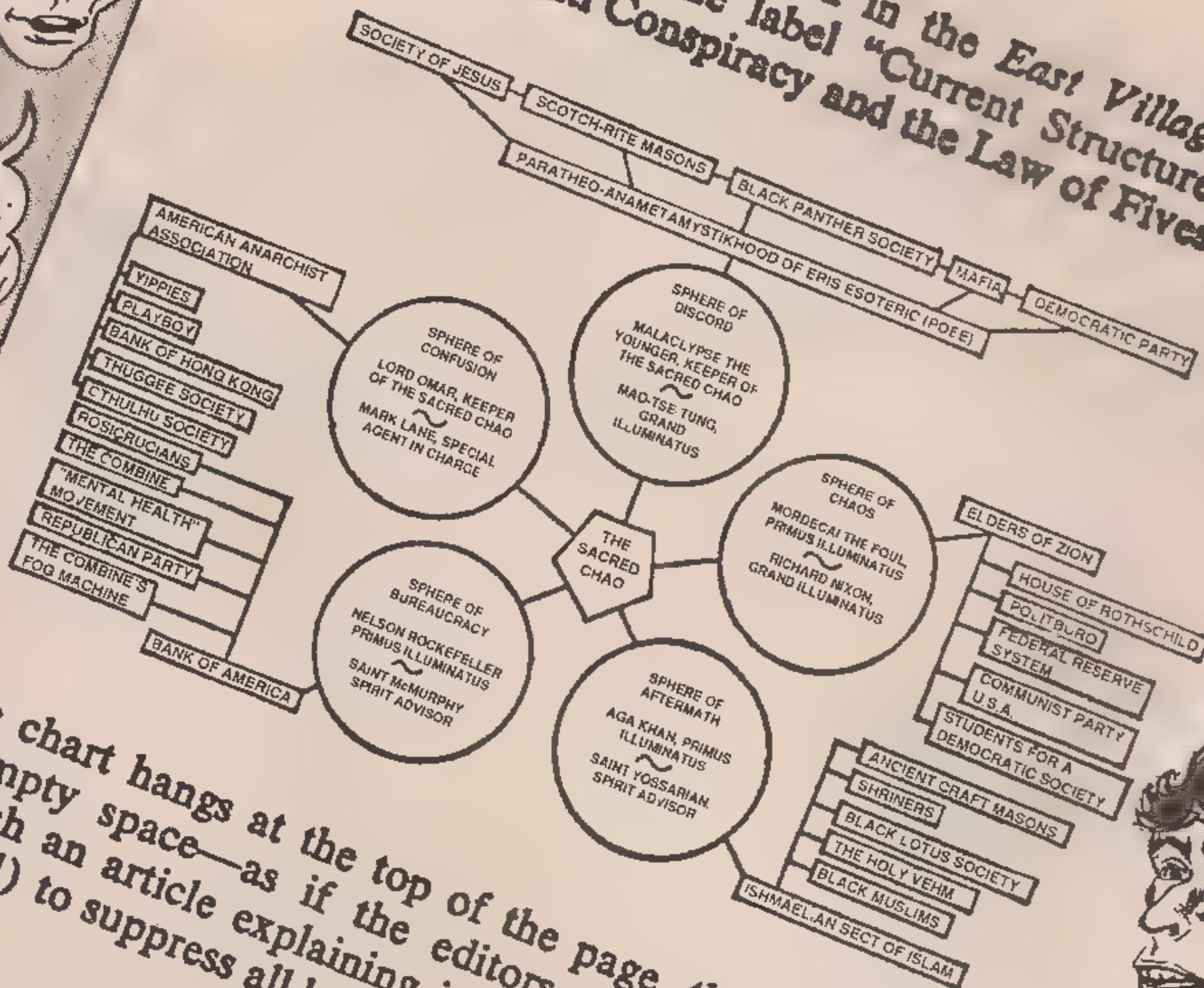
NO, MULDOON, BUT IT'S NICE TO FIND SOMETHING IN THIS CASE THAT I CAN RECOGNIZE.

LET'S LOOK AT THE REST OF THOSE MEMOS.

THIS ONE HAS TO BE A HOAX!

J.M.:
The following chart appeared in the *East Village Other*, June 11, 1969, with the label "Current Structure of the Bavarian Illuminati Conspiracy and the Law of Fives":

7/28



The chart hangs at the top of the page, the rest of which is empty space—as if the editors originally intended to publish an article explaining it, but decided (or were persuaded) to suppress all but the diagram itself.

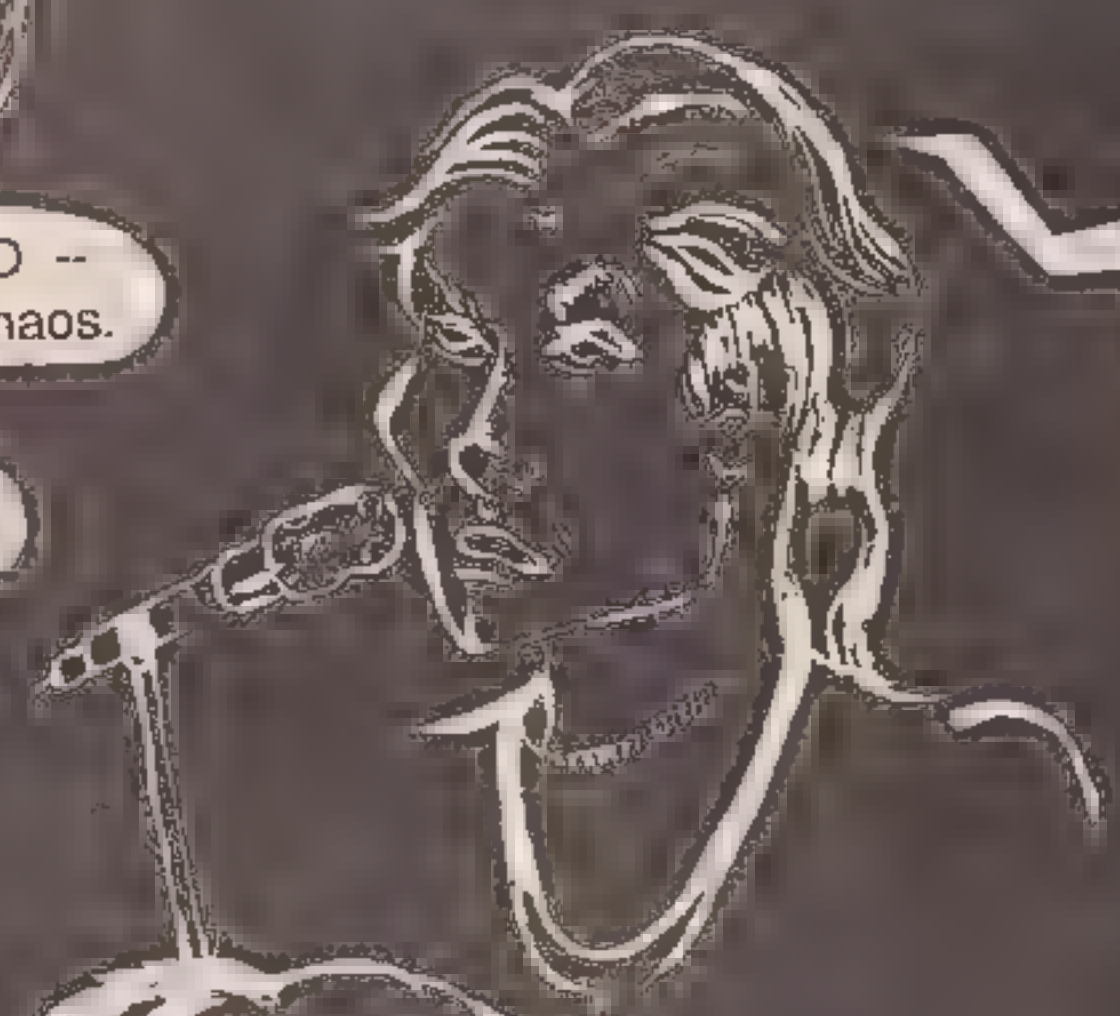
MY BROTHER'S A JESUIT, AND HE NEVER INVITED ME INTO ANY CONSPIRACY!

LET'S READ THE REST OF THE MEMOS.

Pat

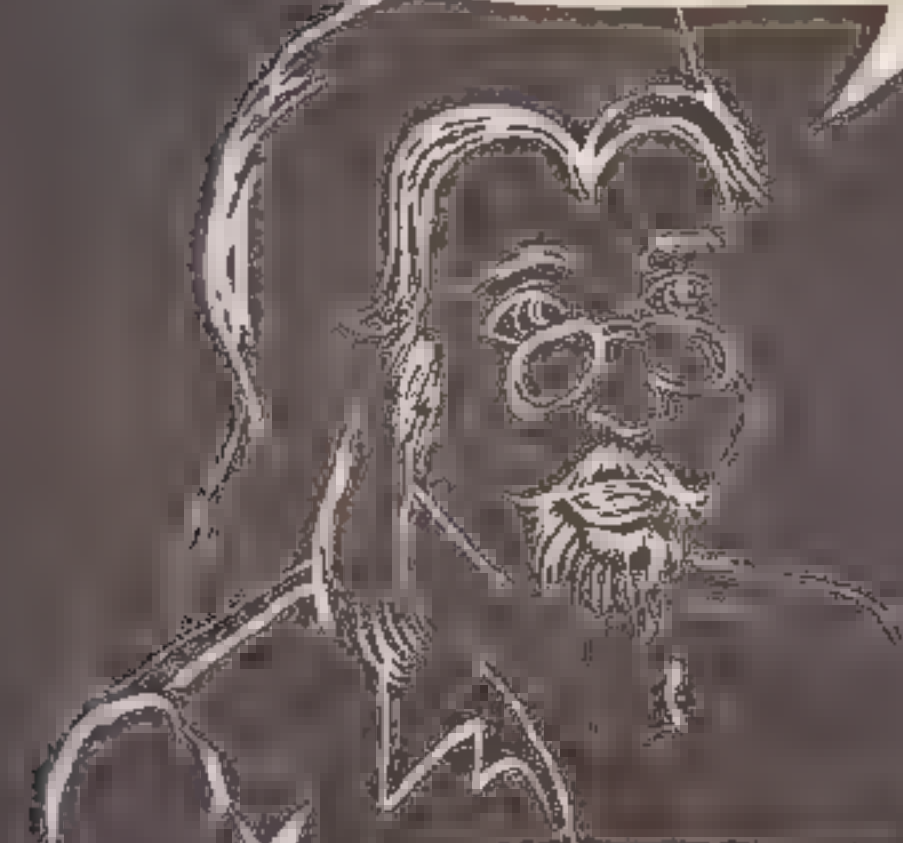


Spelled C-H A-O --
a single unit of chaos.



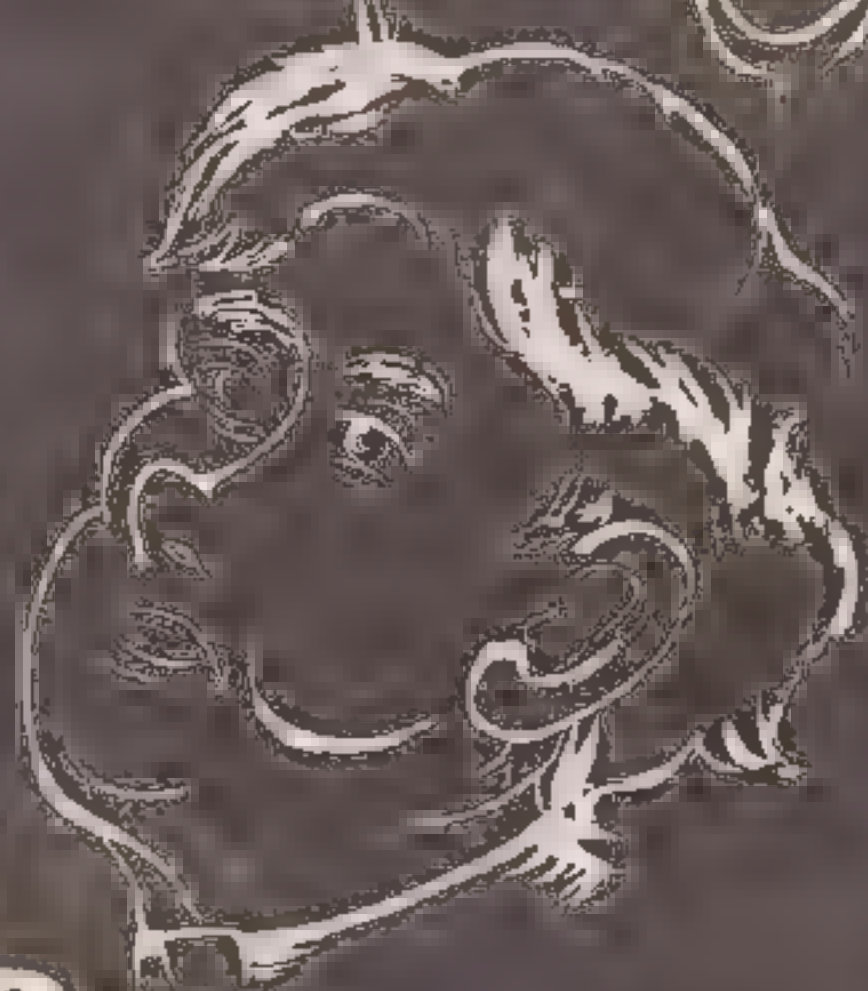
T-T-TAKE ME ♪
♪ TO THE ♪
♪ RI-VER!! ♪

Too MUCH!
They're nuttier than the SSS!

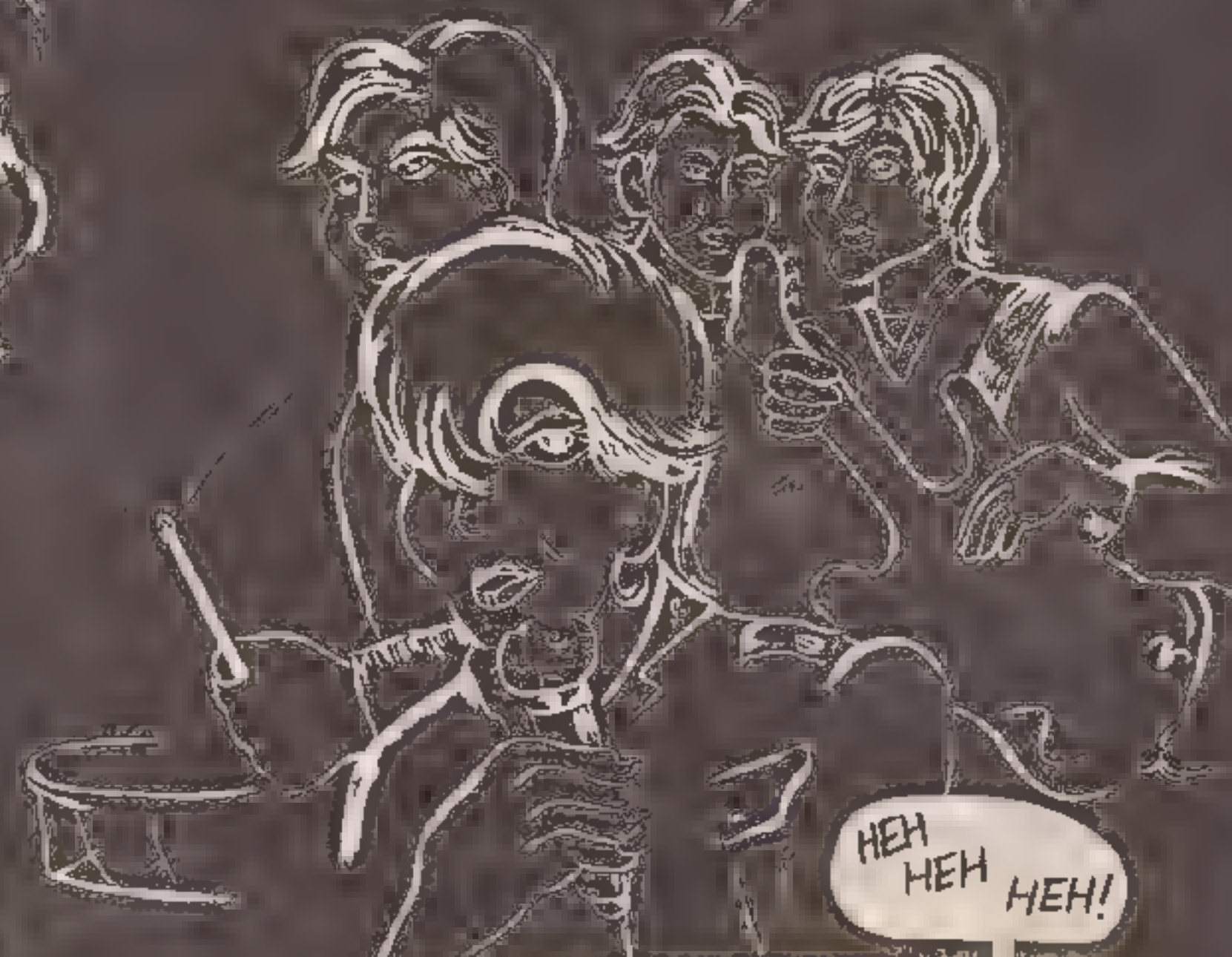


NEVER underestimate
absurdity!

We have an alliance with
THEM?



The JAMS couldn't do it alone.
John — Mr. Sullivan *himself* authorized this.



HEH
HEH
HEH!

What do they call themselves?

The LDD

New members are told it's
the *Legion of Dynamic Discord*

Later, the leader, *Celine*, sometimes
tells them it's really for *Little Deluded Dupes*.



NO! Don't EVER make that mistake!
ELF is much more *estoteric*.
Celine's an *activist*, like *us*.

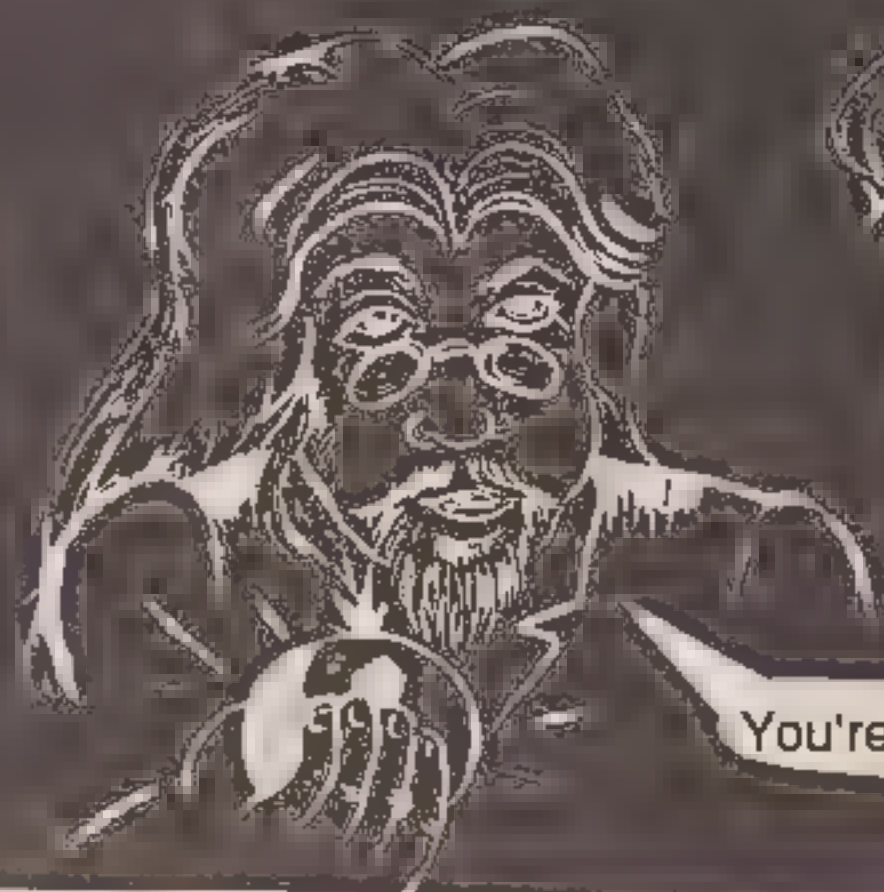
Absurd st yoga & activist *ethics* don't MIX.

Celine's a walking contradiction.

Right or left hand path?

Right Almost all absurdist systems are.
They *never* invoke You-Know-Who!
They rely on *Discordia*.

Discordia— Latin for *Eris*.
They're part of the *Erisian Liberation Front*?



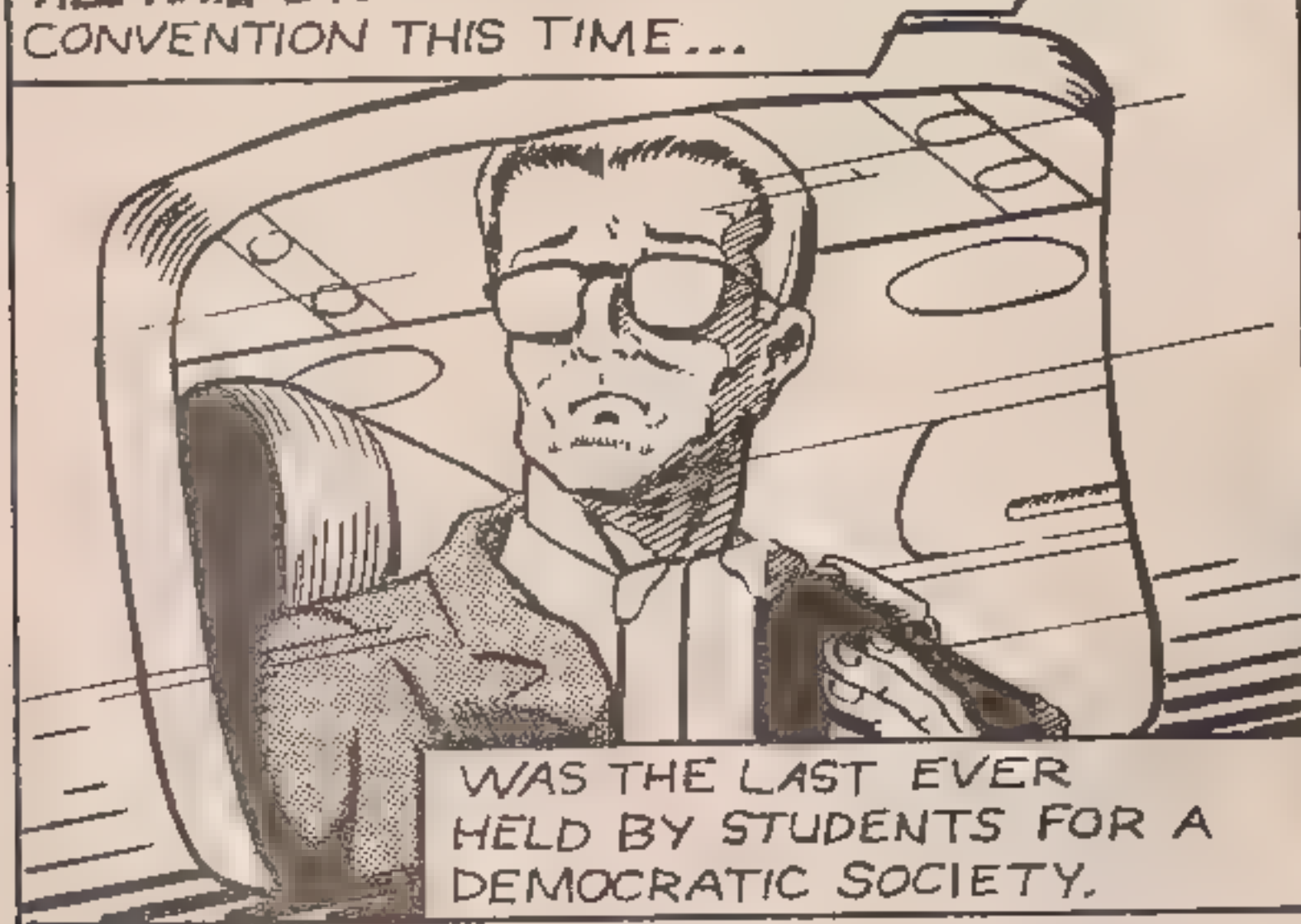
You're *sure* he's on our side?

IT WAS ALMOST A YEAR AFTER BEING CLUBBED--JUNE 22, 1969-- THAT JOE RETURNED TO CHICAGO...



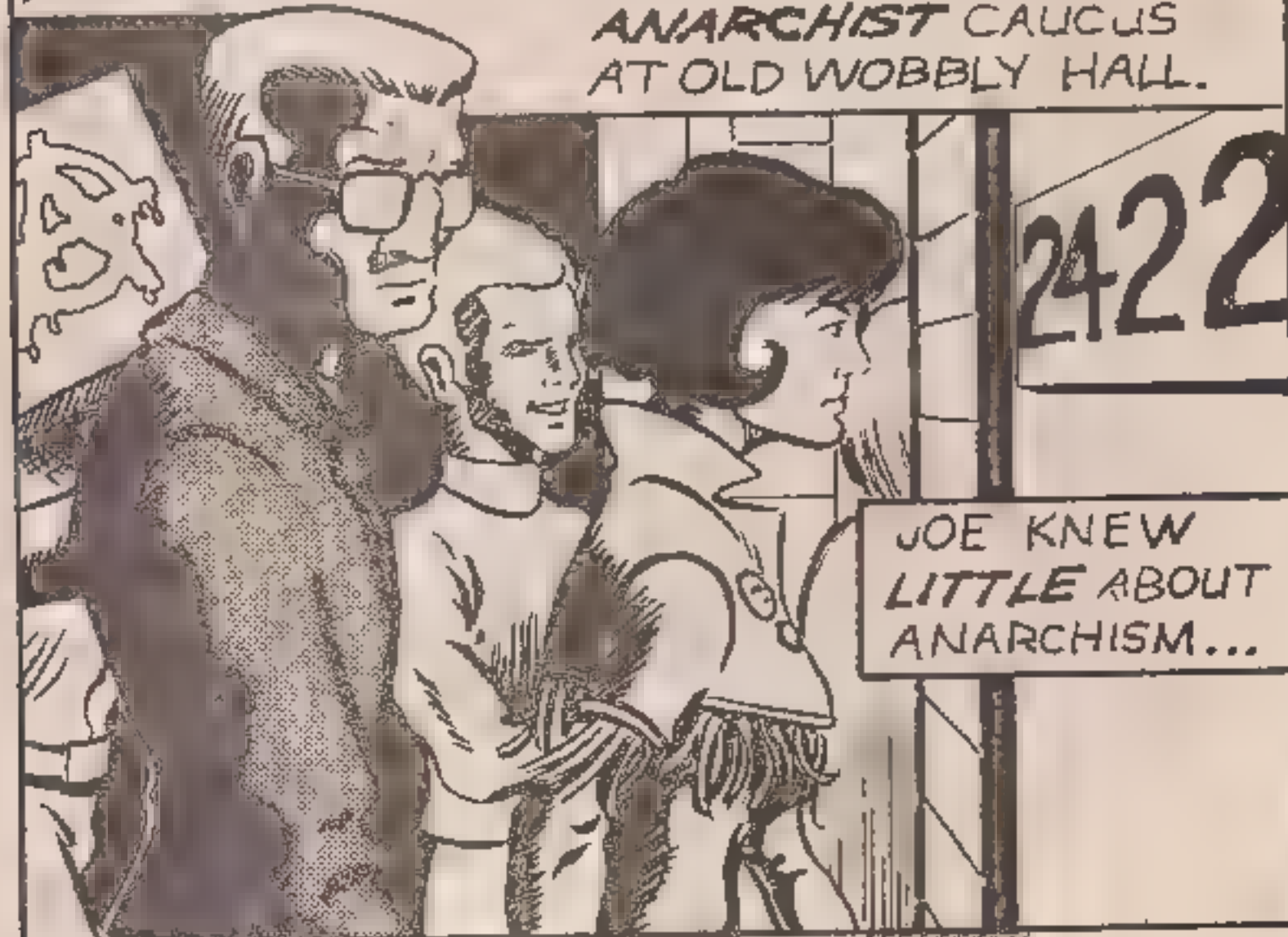
TO WITNESS **ANOTHER** RIGGED CONVENTION, SUFFER **FURTHER** DISILLUSIONMENT, MEET **SIMON** ONCE MORE...

...AND HEAR THE MYSTERIOUS PHRASE "**ALL HAIL DISCORDIA**" AGAIN. THE CONVENTION THIS TIME...



WAS THE LAST EVER HELD BY STUDENTS FOR A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY.

...ANOTHER PART OF JOE WAS DEAD, AND HIS FAITH IN MAN'S NATURAL GOODNESS **FURTHER** ERODED. SO HE ATTENDED AN **ANARCHIST** CAUCUS AT OLD WOBBLY HALL.

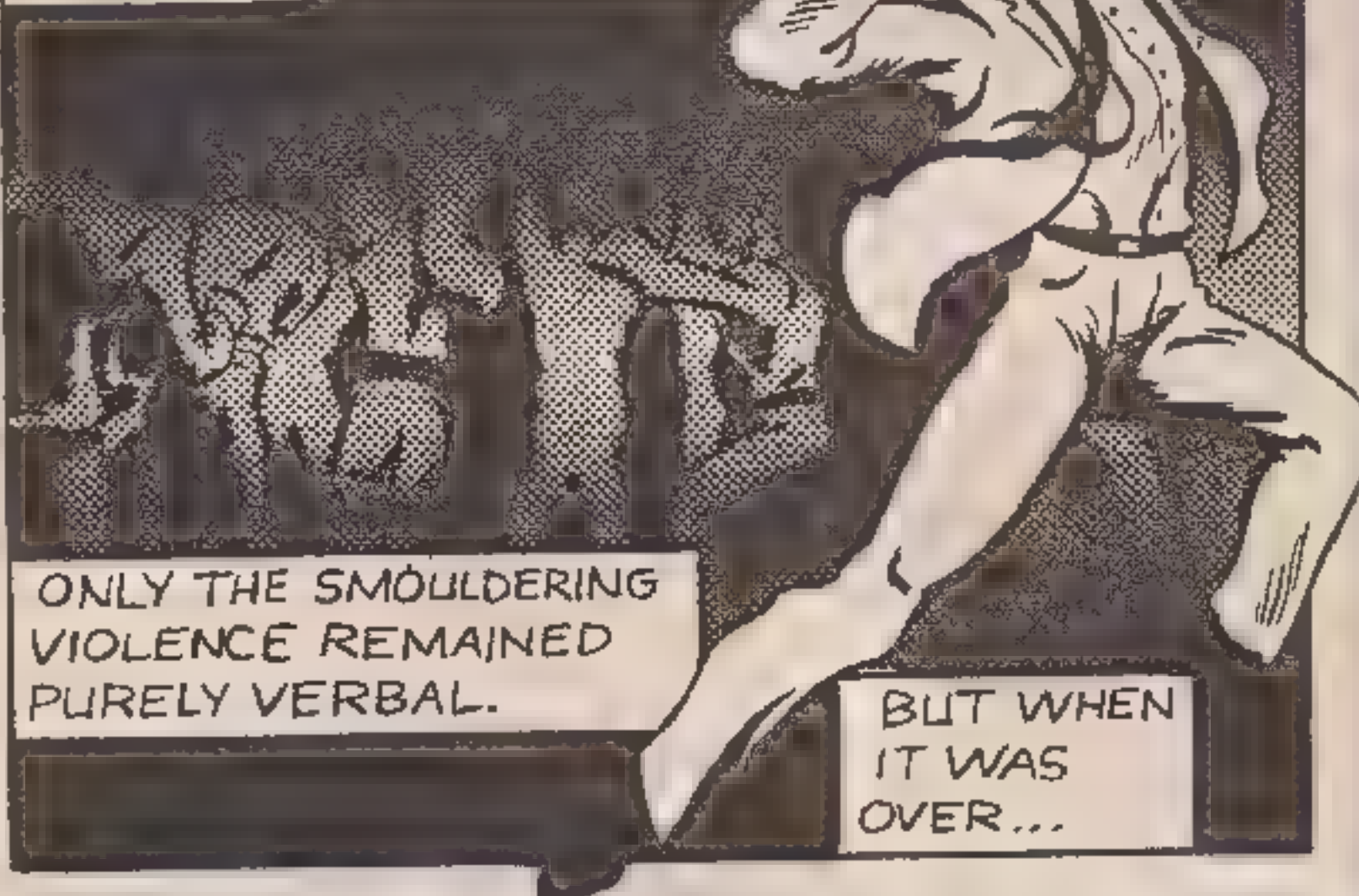


JOE KNEW **LITTLE** ABOUT ANARCHISM...

GRADUALLY, JOE SORTED OUT THE DIFFERENT **FACTIONS**.

JOE REALISED THAT THE **PROGRESSIVE LABOR** FACTION HAD STACKED THE CARDS IN ADVANCE.

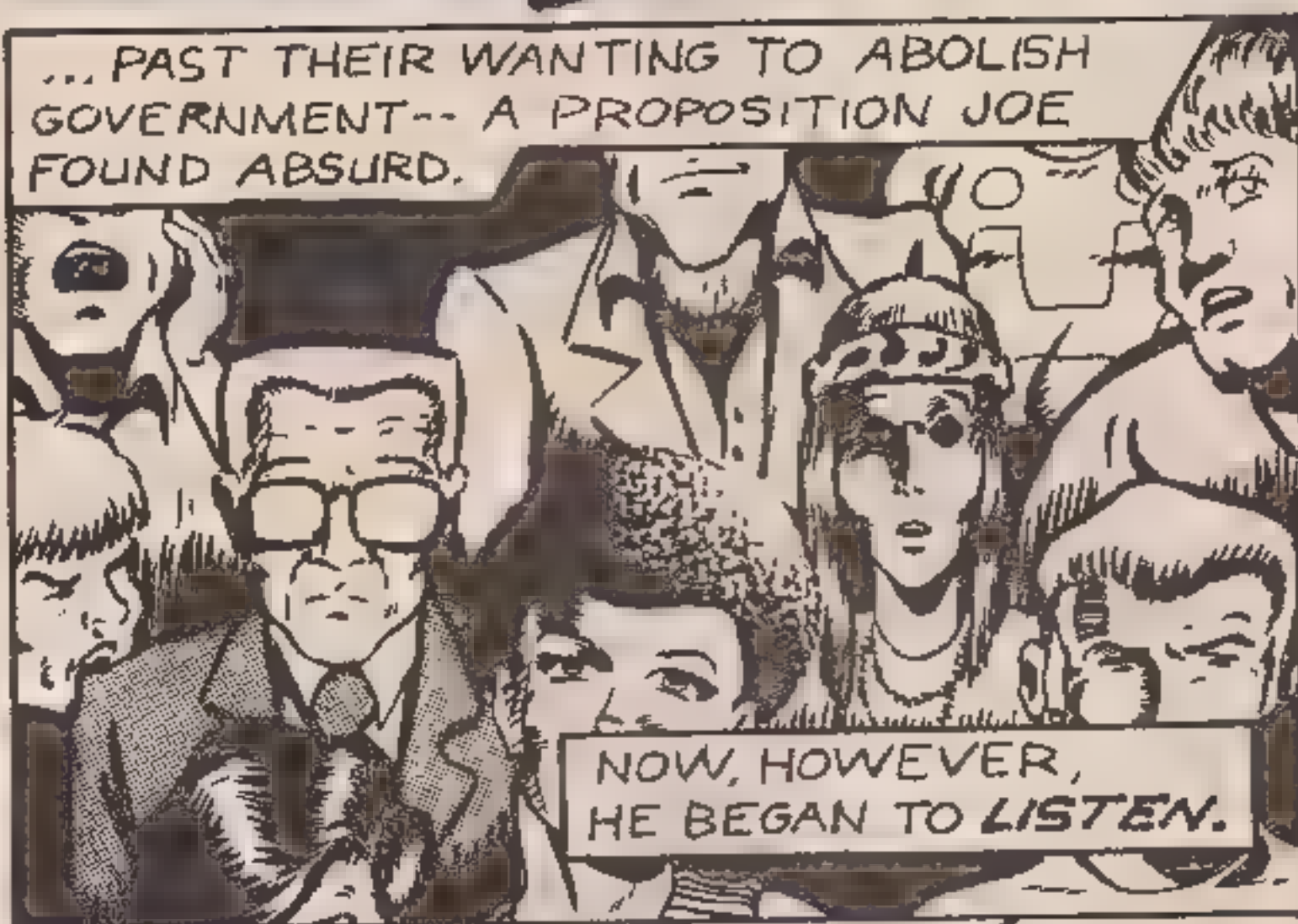
IT WAS THE **DEMOCRATIC PARTY** ALL OVER AGAIN.



ONLY THE **SMOLDERING** VIOLENCE REMAINED PURELY VERBAL.

BUT WHEN IT WAS OVER...

...PAST THEIR WANTING TO ABOLISH GOVERNMENT-- A PROPOSITION JOE FOUND **ABSRD**.



NOW, HOWEVER, HE BEGAN TO **LISTEN**.

ONE GROUP, THE "CRAZIES," WERE **UTTERLY** UNINTELLIGIBLE.

SANITY HAS LED TO THE PRESENT **PLANETARY CRISES!**

IN--SANITY IS THE **ONLY VIABLE** **ALTERNATIVE!**

SIMON WAS AMONG THE CRAZIES.

ART PAGES 14 THRU 30:
ERIC PICCIONE/DAVID MILLER

SIMON DECLARED:

CULTURE

POLITICS

A CERTAIN
"RASCAL RABBIT"
SHOULD BE THE
ANARCHISTS'
SYMBOL;

"CULTURAL REVOLUTION" IS
MORE IMPORTANT THAN
POLITICS;

THE NOMINATION OF...

PIGASUS
FOR

PRESIDENT



...BY THE YIPPIES WAS THE
MOST "TRANSCENDENTALLY
LUCID" POLITICAL ACT
OF THE 20TH CENTURY;

DISCOVERING LSD IN '43
WAS A DIRECT INTERVENTION BY GOD
INTO HUMAN AFFAIRS;



MASS ORGIES ON
EVERY STREET
CORNER WAS THE
NEXT STEP IN
LIBERATION;



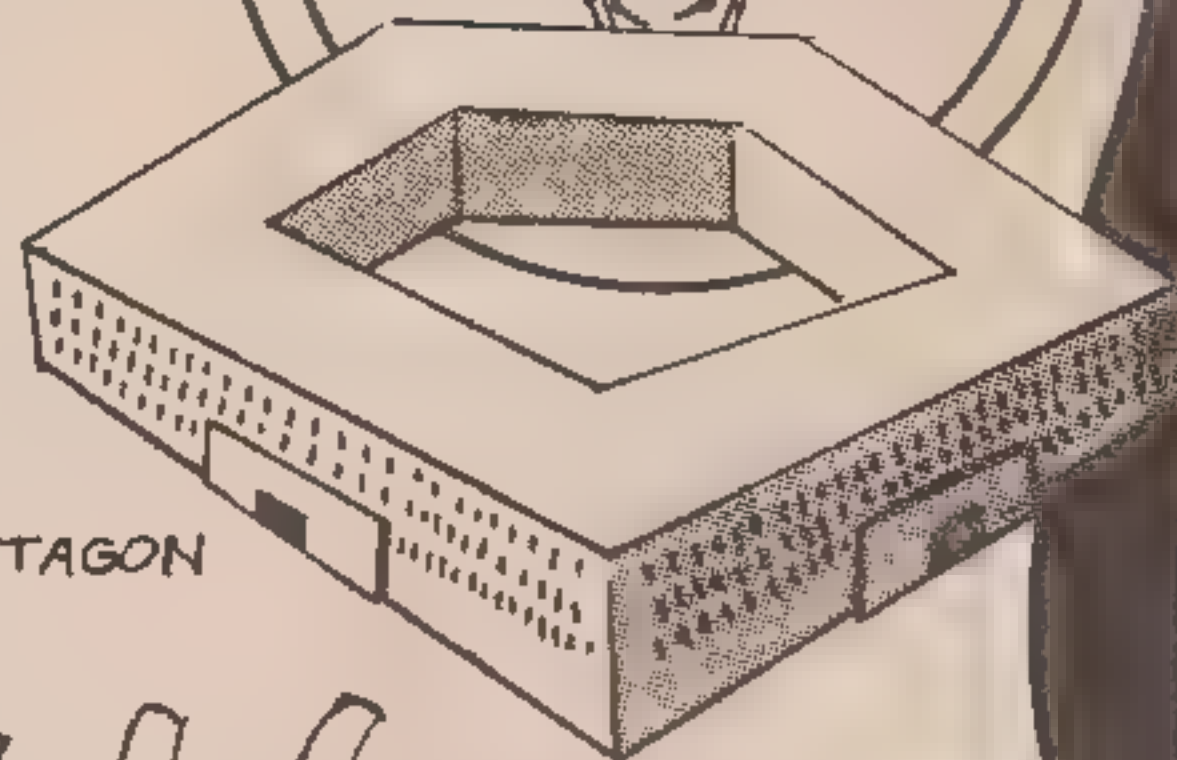
HE URGED
THE STUDY
OF THE TAROT
TO "FIGHT THE
REAL ENEMY
WITH THEIR
OWN WEAPONS;

HE LAUNCHED INTO
THE MYSTICAL
SIGNIFICANCE OF

23
SUCH AS:

$2+3=5$

... WHICH IS
THE PENTAD FOR
INVOKING THE DEVIL
"AS FOR EXAMPLE IN A
PENTACLE OR AT THE PENTAGON
BUILDING IN WASHINGTON;

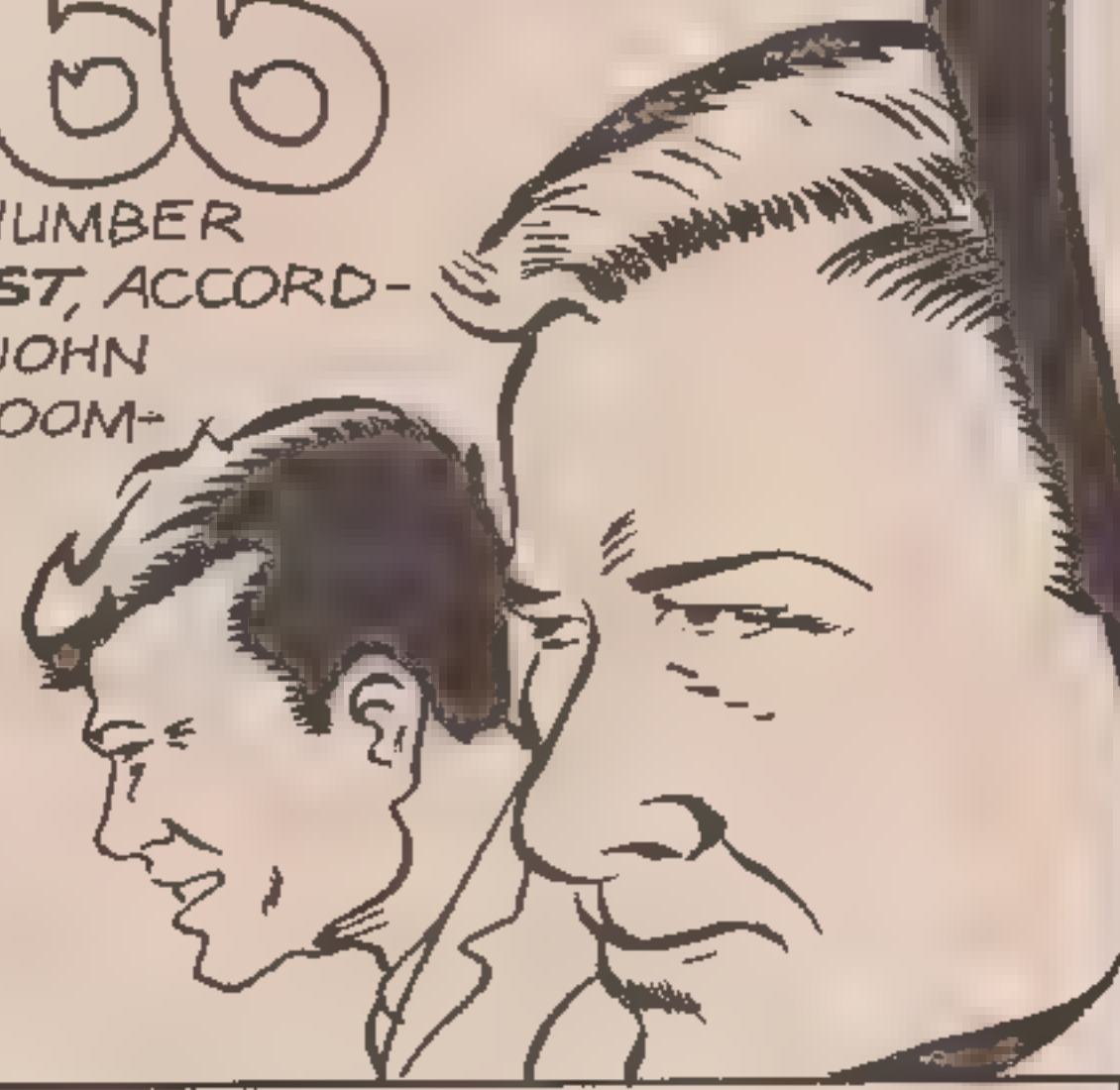


OF 23's
"CONSPICUOUS
EXOTERIC
ABSENCE" IN
WUBBLY HALL'S
ADDRESS:
2422 NORTH
HALSTED;

$2/3 = 0.666$

"THE NUMBER
OF THE BEAST, ACCORD-
ING TO ST. JOHN
THE MUSHROOM-
HEAD;"

AND THAT KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION,
NOV. 22, AND OSWALD'S, NOV. 24,
HAD A 23 BETWEEN THEM...



...WHEN HE WAS SHOUTED DOWN, THE CONVERSATION RETURNED TO
A MORE MUNDANE LEVEL.

IN WHIMSY AND DESPAIR,
JOE DECIDED TO FIND MEANING
IN SIMON'S RAMBLINGS.



ABOUT THAT
23...

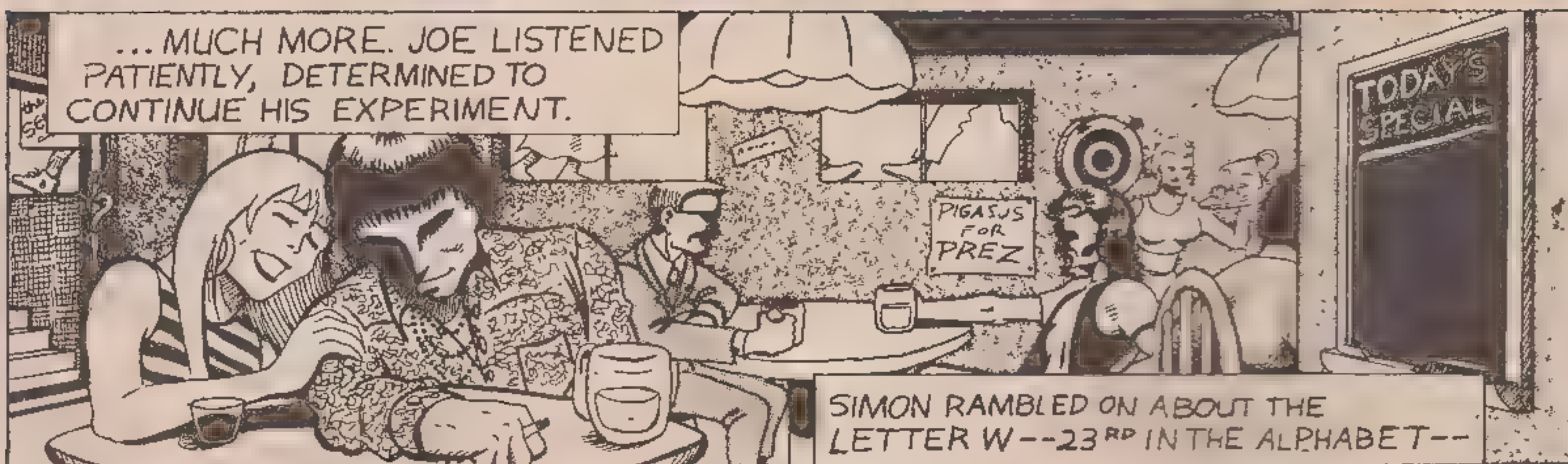


IT'S
EVERYWHERE!
I'VE JUST
SCRATCHED THE
SURFACE!

SIMON WENT ON
ABOUT HOW ALL THE
GREAT ANARCHISTS DIED
ON THE 23RD...

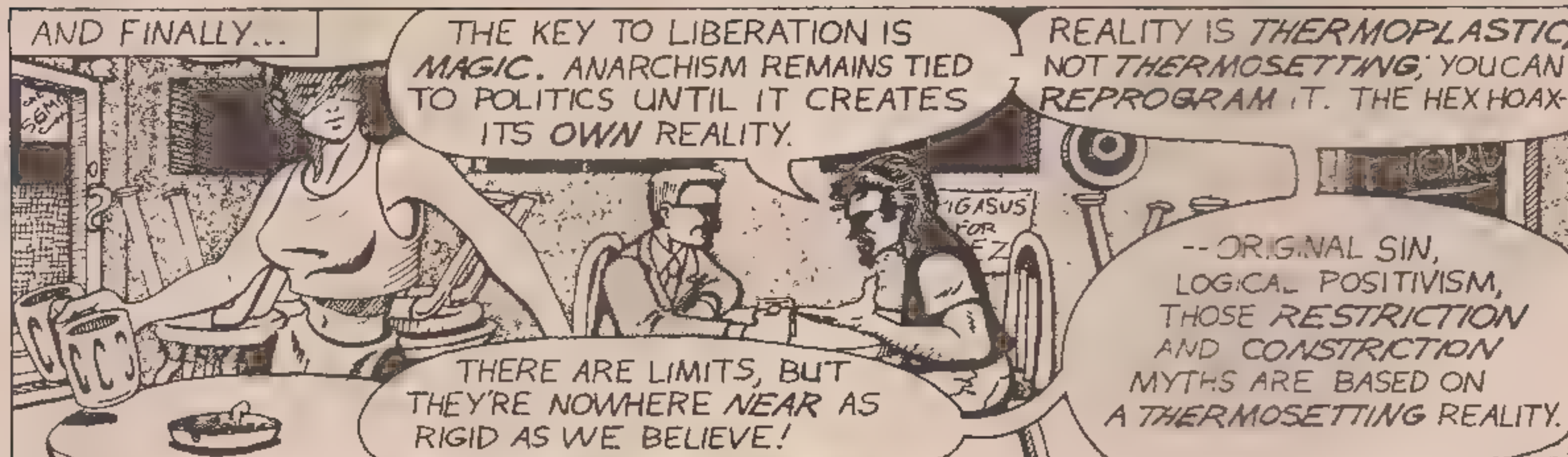
AND THERE WAS MORE...

... MUCH MORE. JOE LISTENED
PATIENTLY, DETERMINED TO
CONTINUE HIS EXPERIMENT.



SIMON RAMBLLED ON ABOUT THE
LETTER W -- 23RD IN THE ALPHABET --

AND FINALLY...



THE KEY TO LIBERATION IS
MAGIC. ANARCHISM REMAINS TIED
TO POLITICS UNTIL IT CREATES
ITS OWN REALITY.

REALITY IS *THERMOPLASTIC*,
NOT *THERMOSETTING*; YOU CAN
REPROGRAM IT. THE HEX HOAX--

THERE ARE LIMITS, BUT
THEY'RE NOWHERE NEAR AS
RIGID AS WE BELIEVE!

-- ORIGINAL SIN,
LOGICAL POSITIVISM,
THOSE *RESTRICTION*
AND *CONSTRUCTION*
MYTHS ARE BASED ON
A *THERMOSETTING* REALITY.

WE'VE BEEN ON ONE
RESTRICTION TRIP
AFTER ANOTHER FOR A
COUPLE THOUSAND *YEARS*--
IT TAKES *REAL* NEGATIVE
ENTROPY TO SHAKE
THE FOUNDATIONS!
THIS ISN'T *SHIT*--
I'VE GOT A DEGREE
IN *MATHEMATICS*!

I STUDIED
ENGINEERING
MYSELF...

...I REALIZE
THAT *PART* OF
WHAT YOU SAY
IS TRUE...

IT'S ALL TRUE! LAND
BELONGS TO LANDLORDS
BECAUSE PEOPLE WORSHIP
DEEDS! YOU NEED
SHOCK ELEMENTS...

ERRATIC, EROTIC, *ERISTIC*
... TO LIFT THE CURSE!
ALL HAIL *DISCORDIA*!
DO YOU READ ME?

WHEN THEY FINALLY PARTED, THE SPELL ENDED.

I'VE BEEN LISTENING TO A SPACED-OUT ACID-HEAD-- AND ALMOST MANAGING TO BELIEVE HIM!

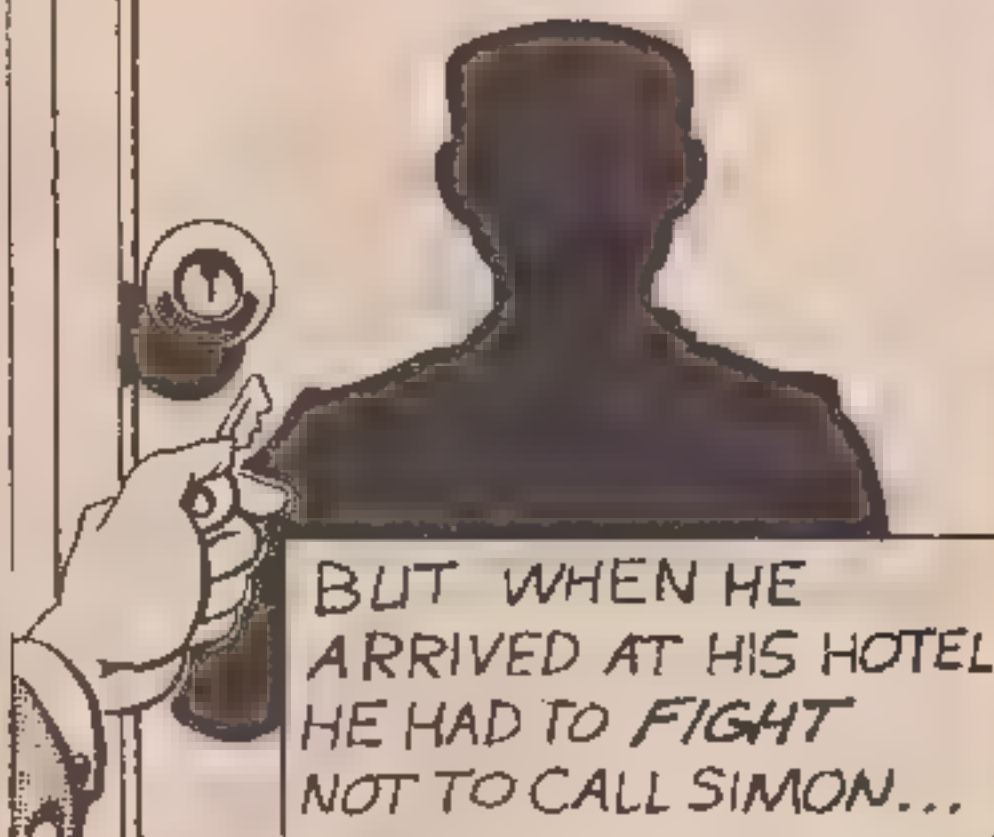
THAT'S HOW INSANITY ALWAYS BEGINS...

JOE FORCED HIMSELF BACK INTO HIS USUAL FRAMEWORK.



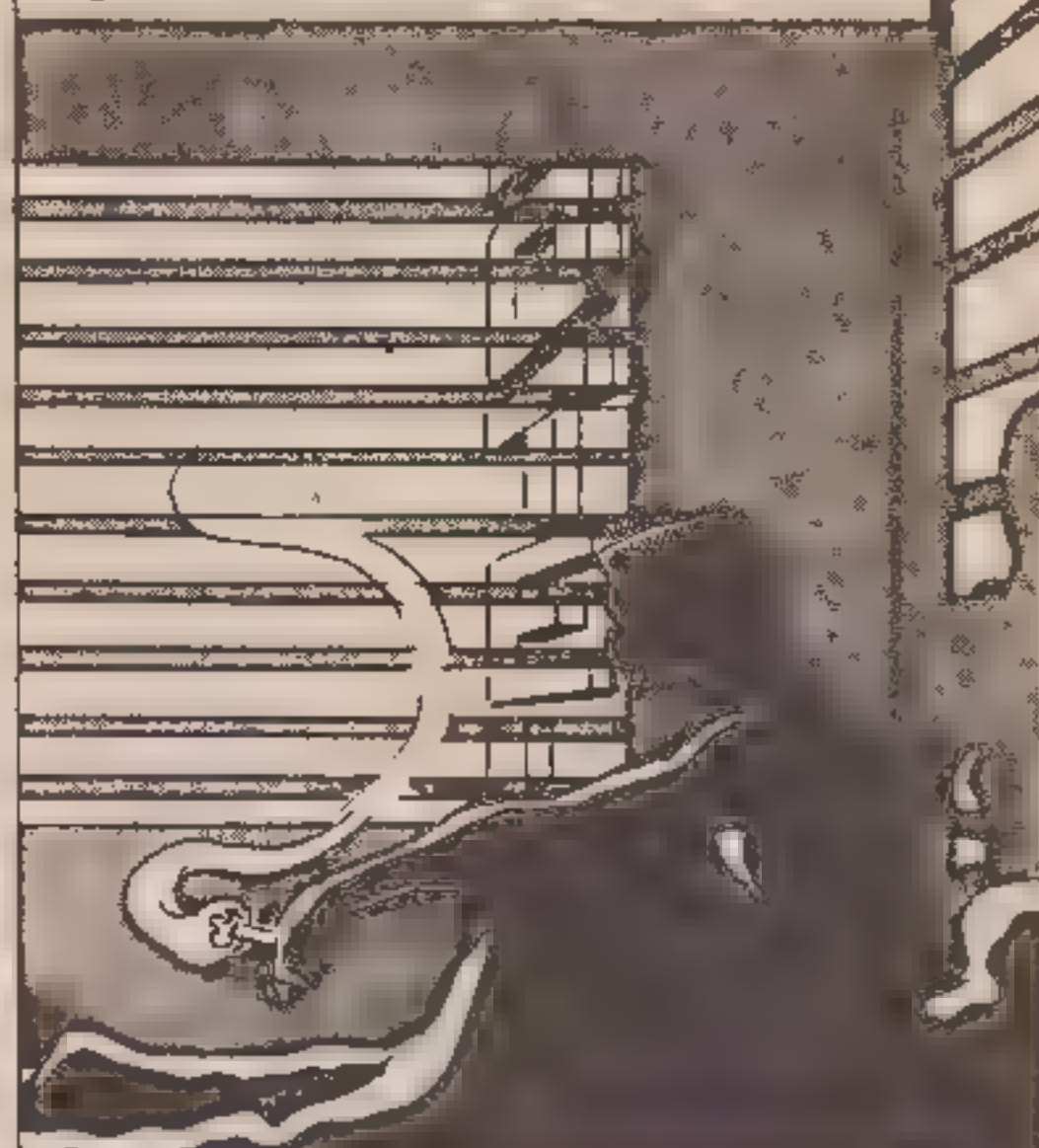
NO MATTER HOW CRUEL REALITY WAS, JOE WOULD NOT JOIN THE JOYRIDE TO CLOUD CUCKOO LAND.

23



BUT WHEN HE ARRIVED AT HIS HOTEL HE HAD TO FIGHT NOT TO CALL SIMON...

...AND HE LAY AWAKE FOR HOURS REMEMBERING 23'S IN HIS LIFE...



...AND WONDERING ABOUT THE ORIGIN OF THAT MYSTERIOUS BIT OF 1929 SLANG, "23 SKIDOO."

THE NEXT DAY:

LISTEN, CAN YOU STAY OVER A NIGHT? I'VE SOMETHING I'D LIKE YOU TO SEE. ARE YOU GAME?

YES.

GOD IS DEAD.

GOD IS DEAD.

WE ARE ABSOLUTELY FREE.

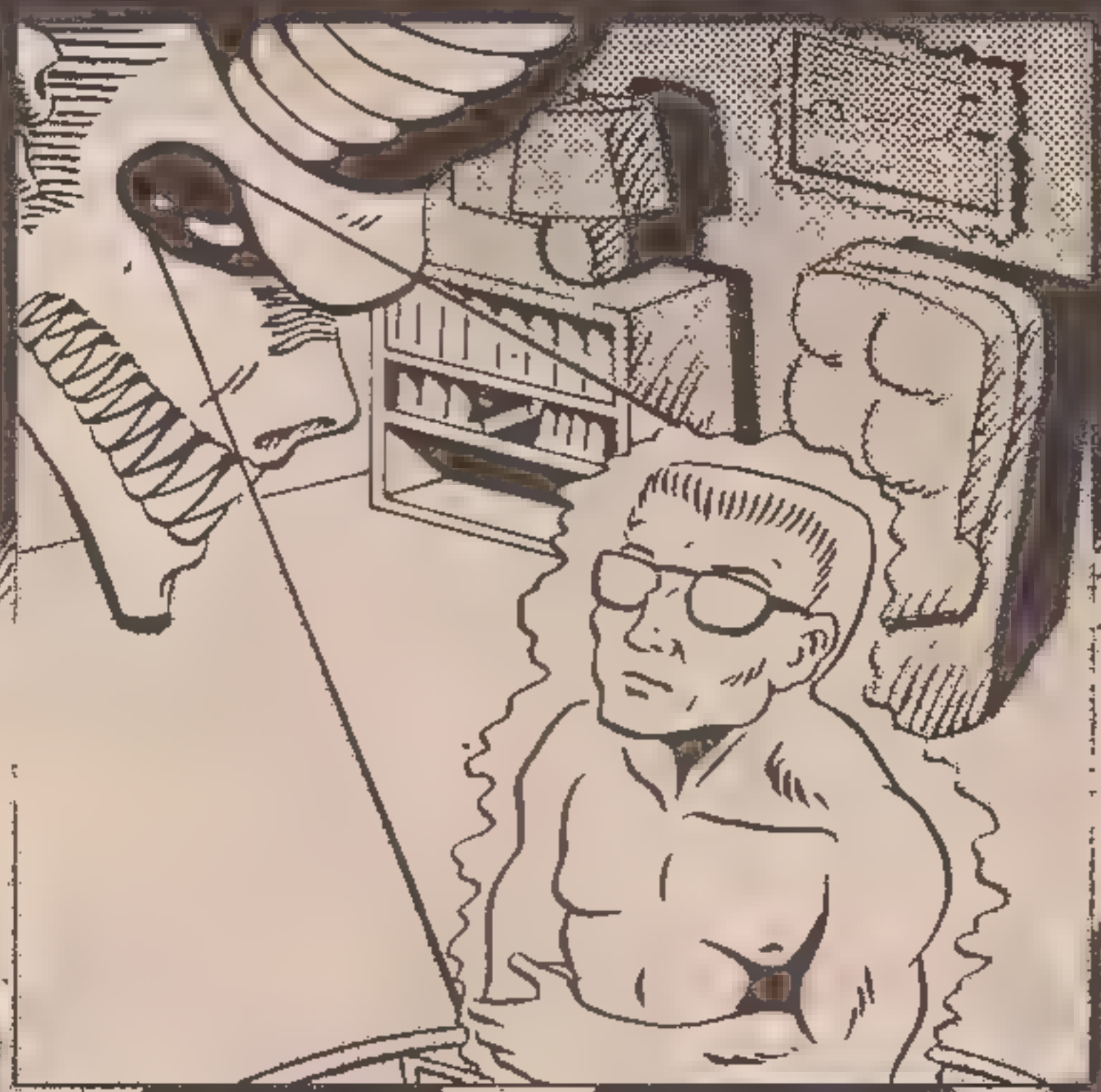
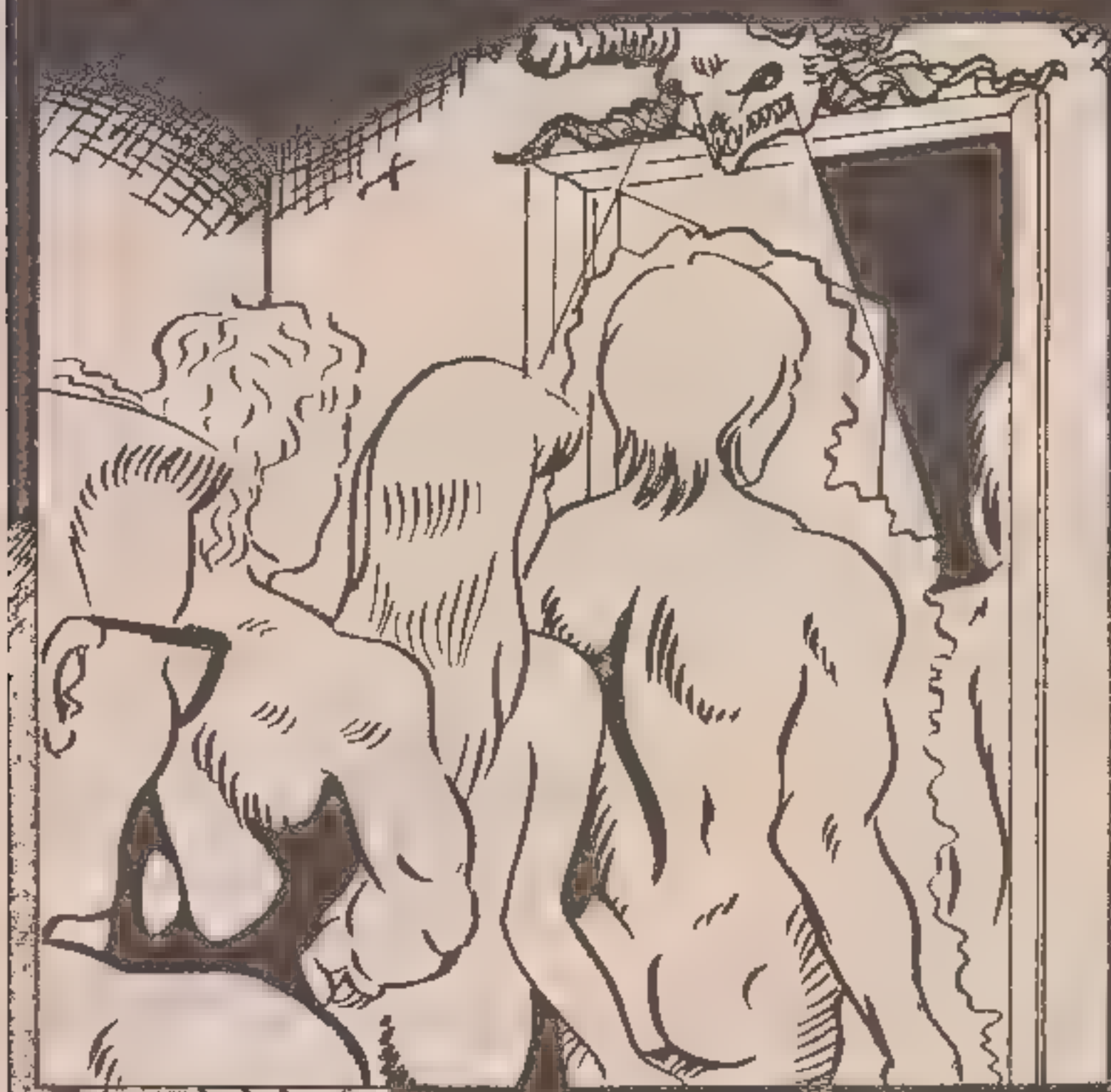
WE ARE ABSOLUTELY FREE.

DO WHAT THOU WILT SHALL BE THE WHOLE OF THE LAW.

DO WHAT THOU WILT SHALL BE THE WHOLE OF THE LAW.

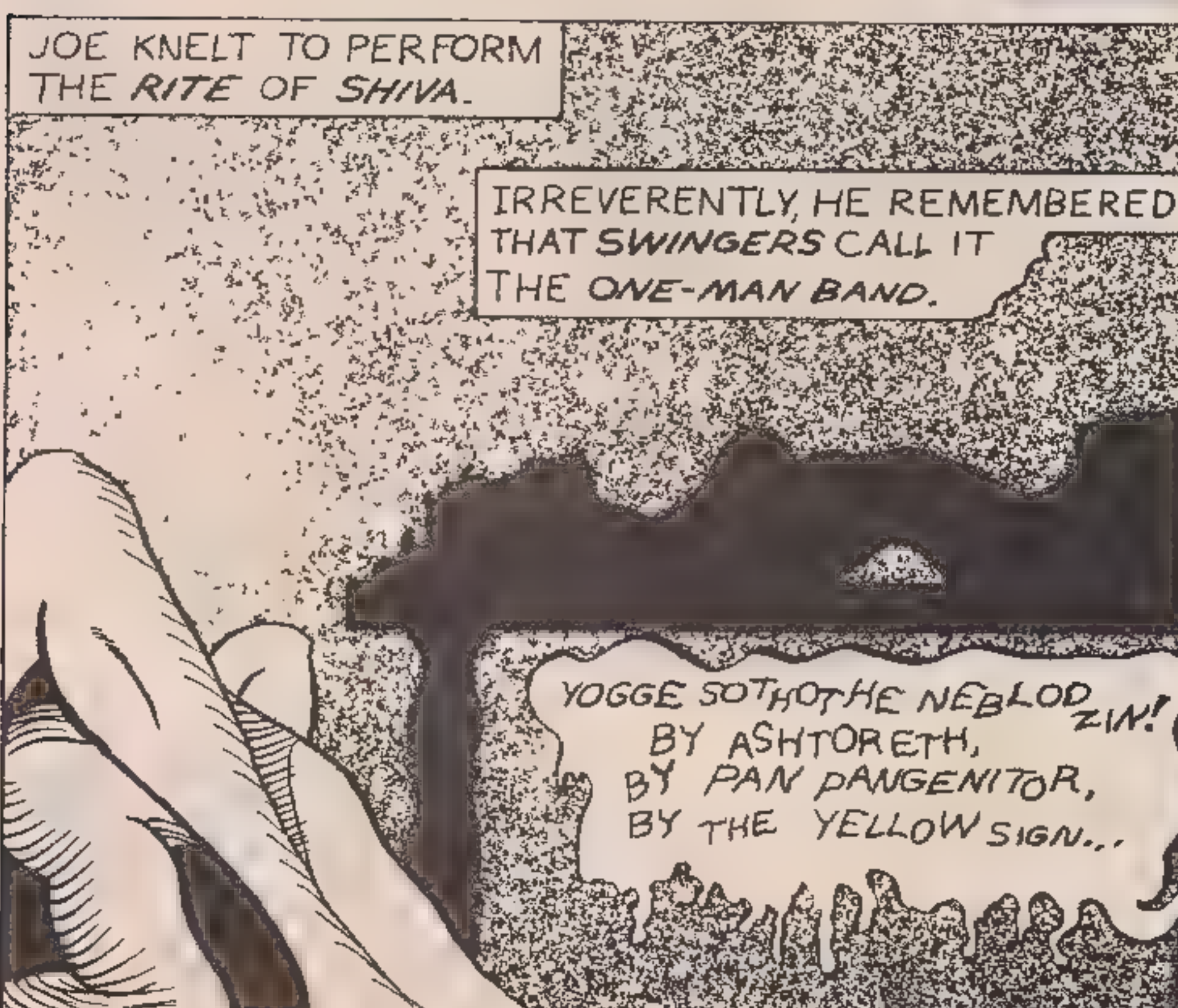
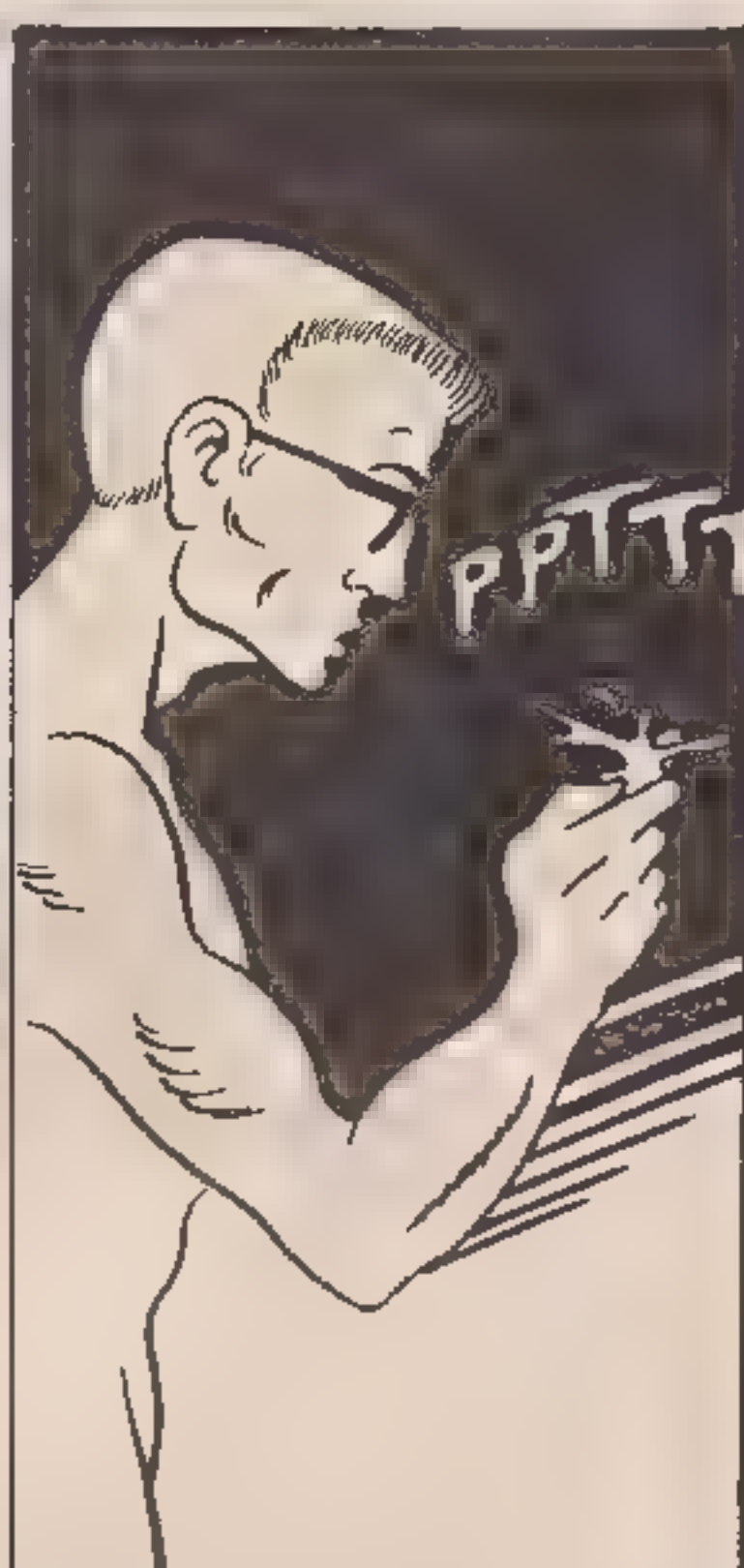
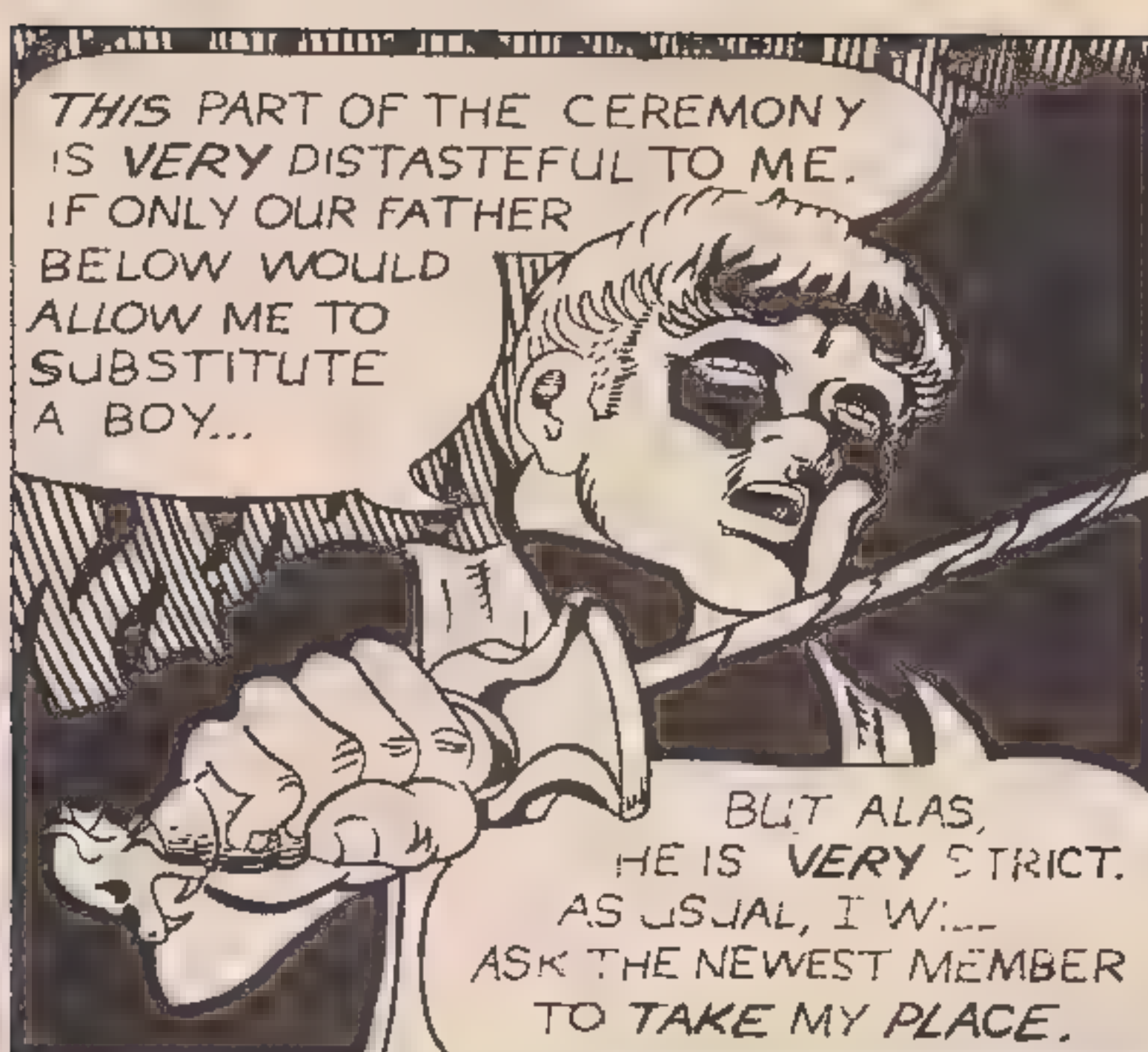
PREPARE THE PENTAD.

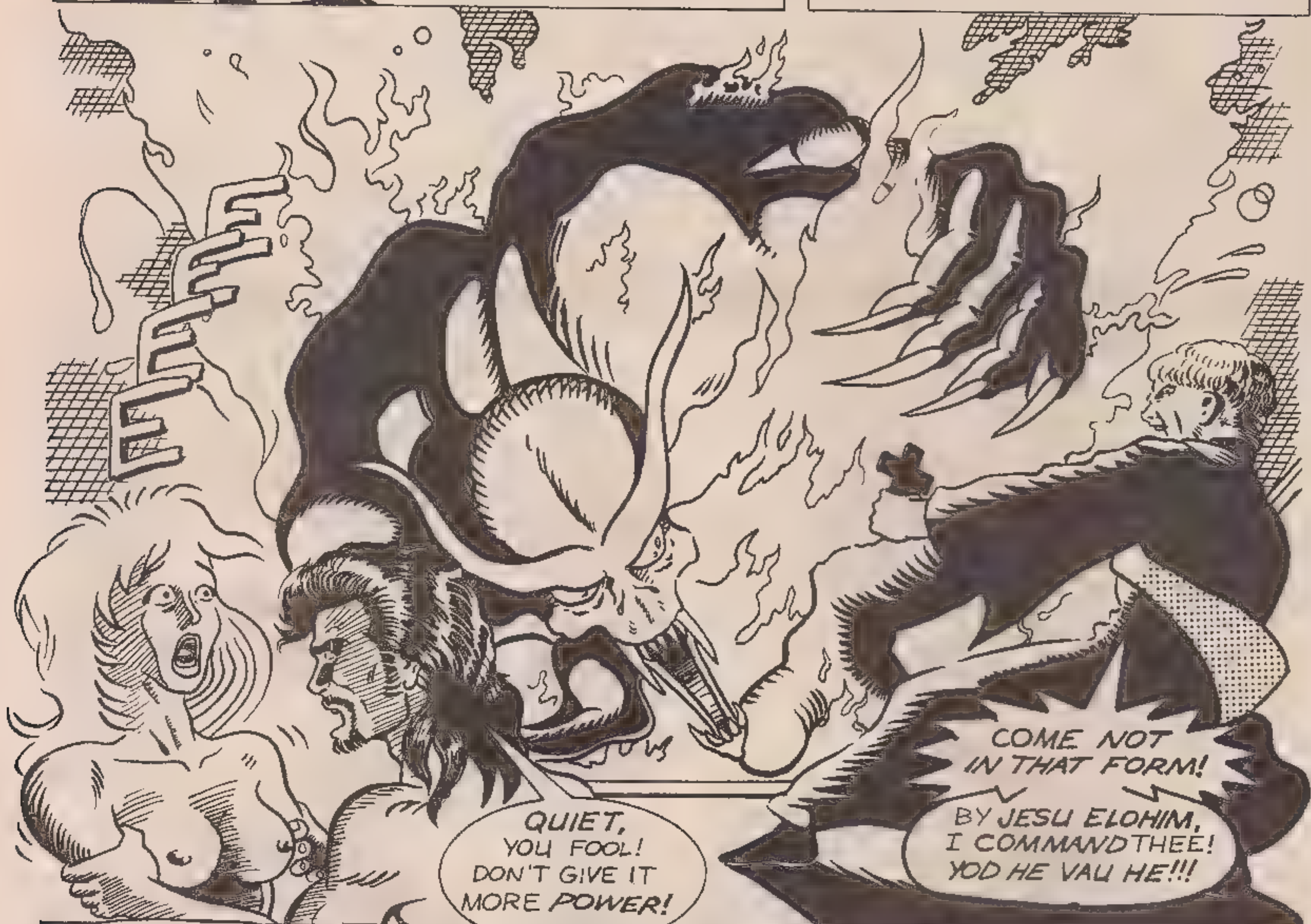
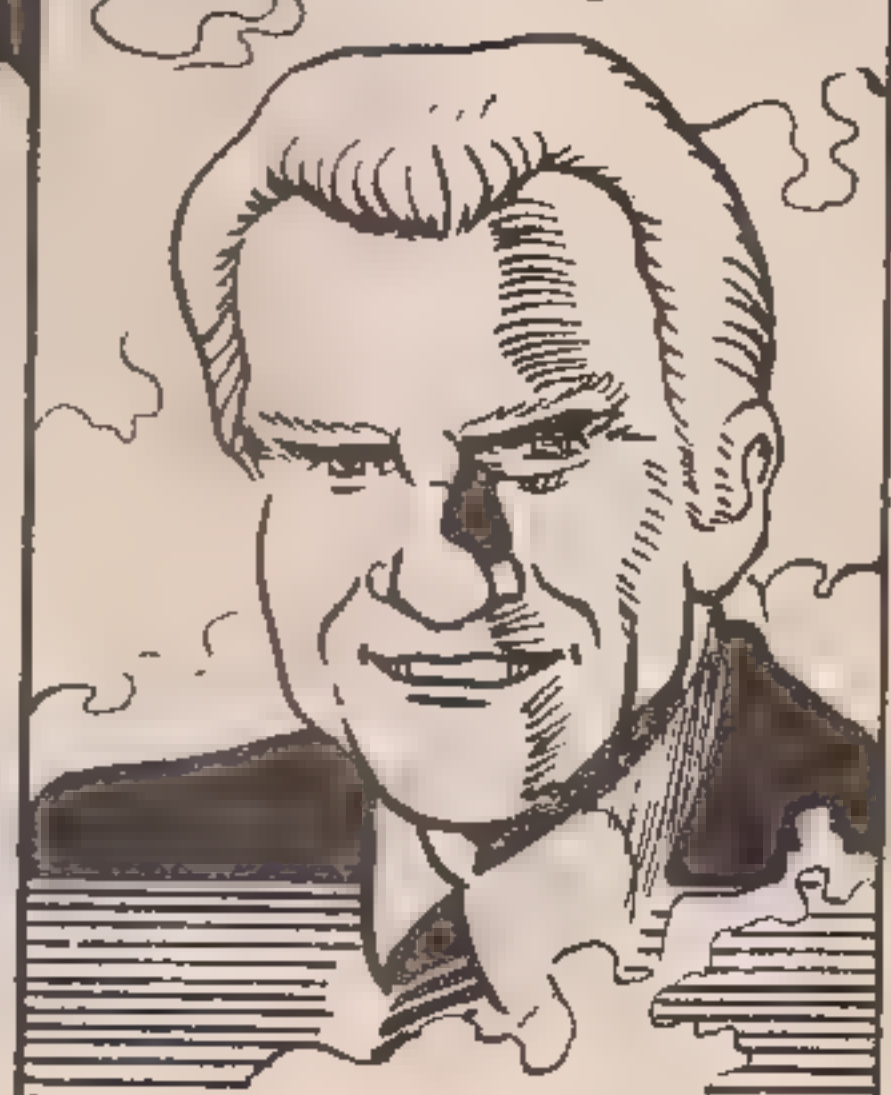
BRRR!



ON THE ALTAR WAS THE 13TH COVEN MEMBER. HER BODY WOULD BE THE MEDIUM THROUGH WHICH THIS **STRANGE** SACRAMENT WOULD BE ATTEMPTED.





[illegible]

OK, NO NEED TO GET TOUCHY OVER *THEATRICALS*... JUST TELL ME WHAT YOU WENT AND *DRAGGED* ME HERE FOR.

IN THE *PRESENT*, SAUL AND BARNEY ARE *STILL* WADING THROUGH JOE'S ILLUMINATI MEMOS...



'T LOOKED LIKE BILLY GRAHAM.

I'M SURE WE CAN WORK OUT THE DETAILS IN A 'BUSINESS-LIKE' FASHION.

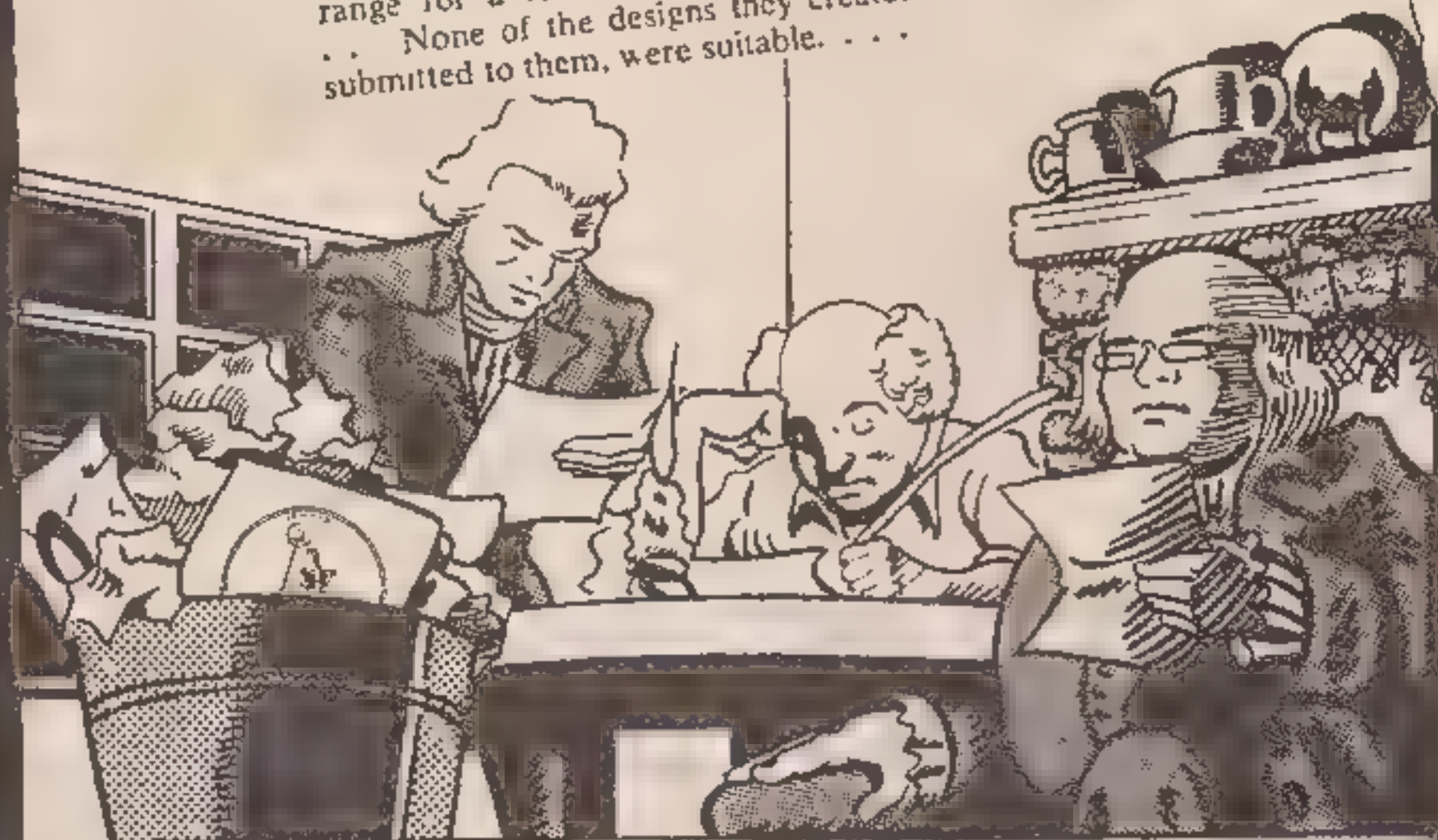


ILLUMINATI PROJECT: MEMO #10

7/28

JM :
On the origin of the pyramid-and-eye symbol, test your credulity on the following yarn from *Flying Saucers in the Bible* by Virginia Brasington (Saucerian Books, 1963, page 43):

The Continental Congress had asked Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson and John Adams to arrange for a seal for the United States of America. . . . None of the designs they created or which were submitted to them, were suitable. . . .



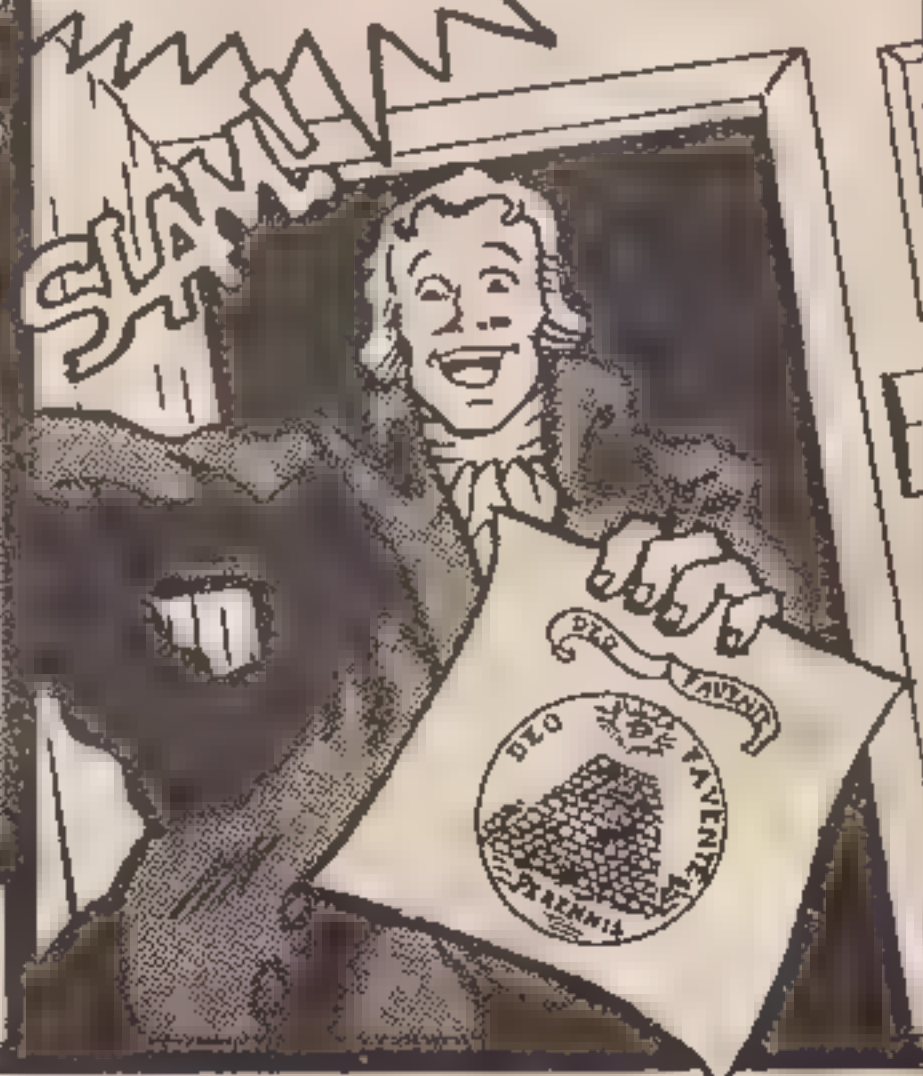
"JEFFERSON WALKED OUT INTO THE COOL NIGHT AIR TO CLEAR HIS MIND.

"A MAN APPROACHED HIM WITH A DESIGN--

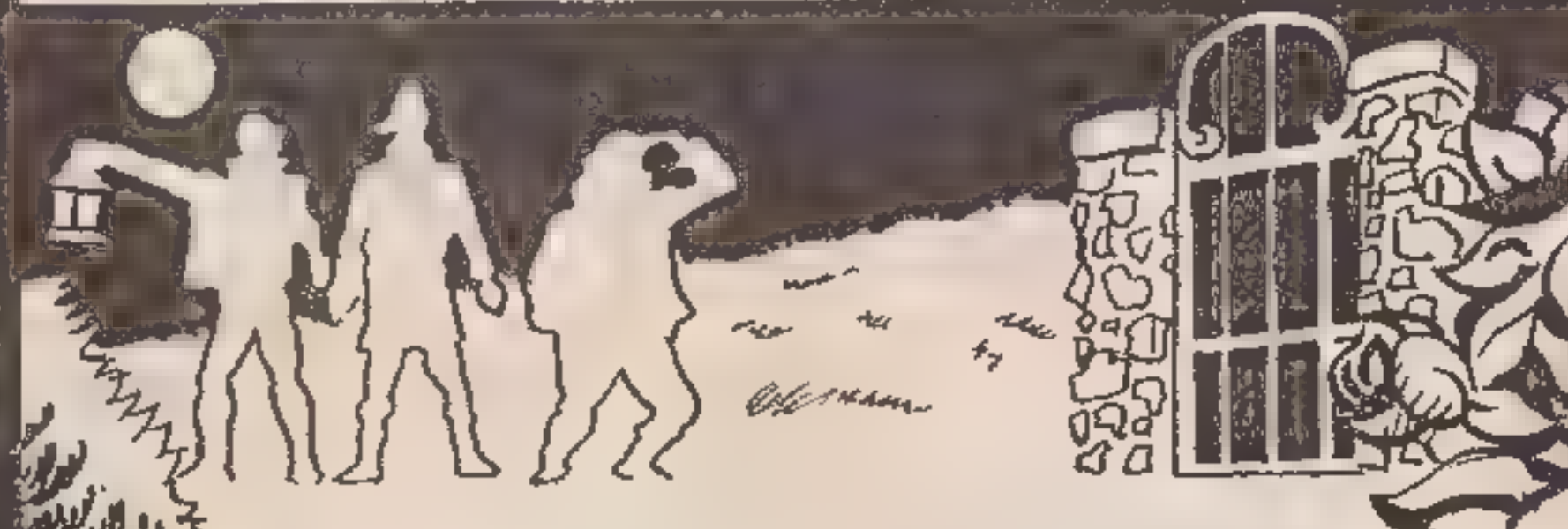
I HAVE IT!
I HAVE IT!



--THAT WAS APPROPRIATE AND MEANINGFUL.



"AFTER THE EXCITEMENT DIED DOWN, THEY TRIED TO FIND THE STRANGER, BUT HE WAS GONE.



"THUS, NIETHER THEY NOR ANYBODY ELSE KNEW WHO DESIGNED THE GREAT SEAL!"

NOVEMBER 22, 1963: HARRY COIN SIGHTS HIS REMINGTON CAREFULLY, AS THE MOTORCADE PASSES THE BOOK DEPOSITORY AND HEADS TOWARD HIS PERCH ON THE TRIPLE UNDERPASS...

IF I CARRY THIS OFF RIGHT...

THE CIA'S PROMISED ME MORE JOBS; GOODBYE, PETTY CRIME, HELLO, BIG-TIME MONEY.

TOO BAD, IN A WAY...

"...KENNEDY'S A NICE ENOUGH YOUNG FELLOW-- I'D LIKE TO MAKE IT WITH HIM AND THAT HOT-LOOKING WIFE OF HIS AT THE SAME TIME..."

BUT MONEY TALKS, AND SENTIMENT'S ONLY FOR FOOLS.

HARRY TOOK AIM...

...JUST AS THREE SHOTS RESOUNDED FROM THE GRASSY KNOLL.

JESUS MOTHER-FUCKIN' CHRIST!

BANG!
BANG!
BANG!

AND THEN HE CAUGHT THE GLINT OF THE RIFLE...

... IN THE BOOK DEPOSITORY WINDOW.

GREAT GOD ALMIGHTY--

--HOW THE FUCK MANY OF US ARE THERE HERE?

L.A. INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT,
LATE JUNE, 1969: AFTER A
WHIRLWIND TOUR OF NORTH
AMERICA...

WELL?

(THINK 4 YOURS)

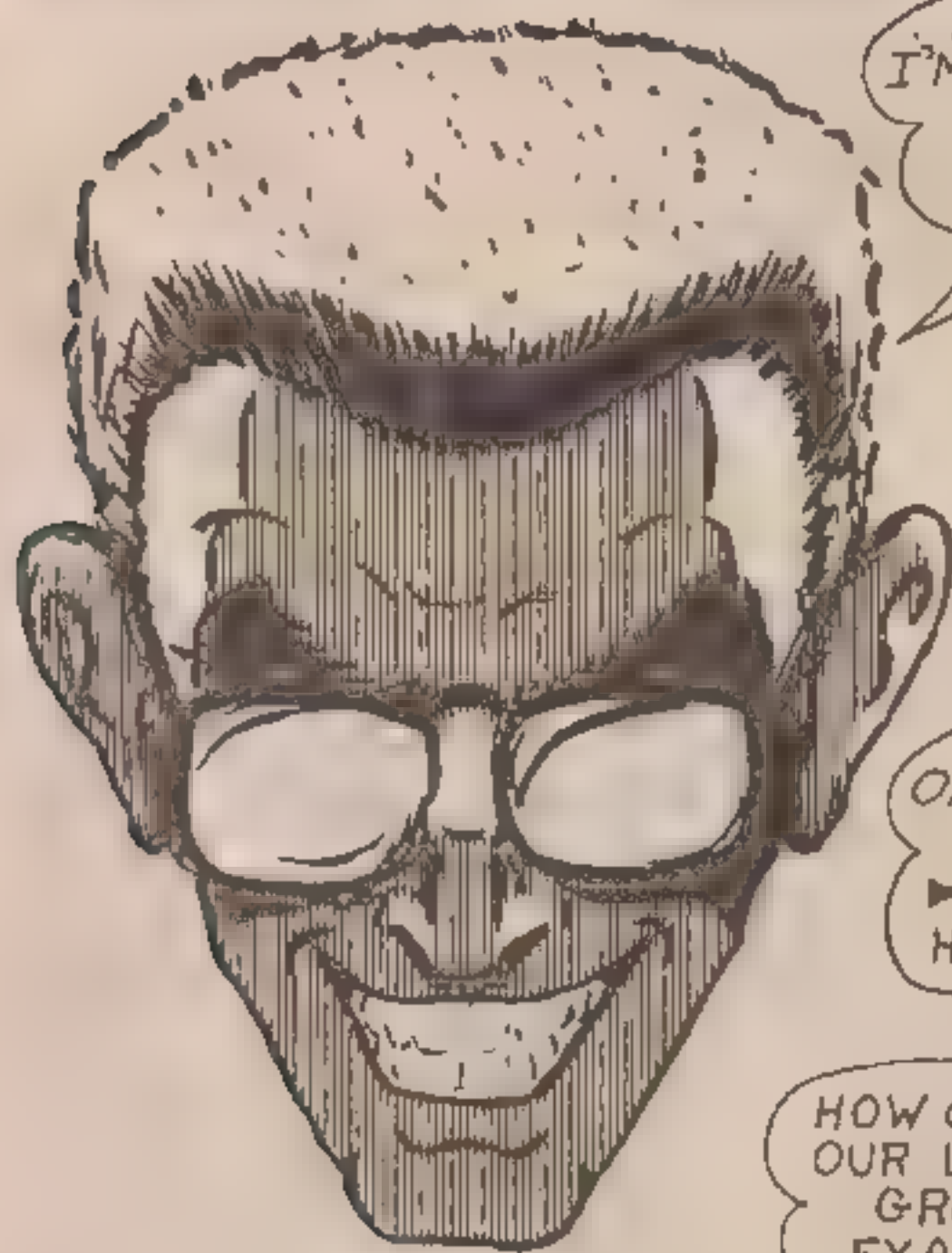
OUT
THE
THE

...DILLINGER'S
MISSING TOOTH
WAS ON THE RIGHT,
THE CORPSE AT
THE BIOGRAPH
HAD A MISSING
TOOTH ON THE
LEFT...

... BILLY
GRAHAM COULDN'T
HAVE GOTTEN TO
CHICAGO BY ANY
NORMAL
MEANS...

JOE MAL
REJOINS
SIMON MOON

GET ON
THE
THAT ME



AND ALL THE REST
I'M SOLD. I'M NO LONGER
IN THE LIBERAL
INTELLECTUAL
GUILD.

YOU BEHOLD
IN ME A HORRIBLE
EXAMPLE OF
CREEPING
MYSTICISM!

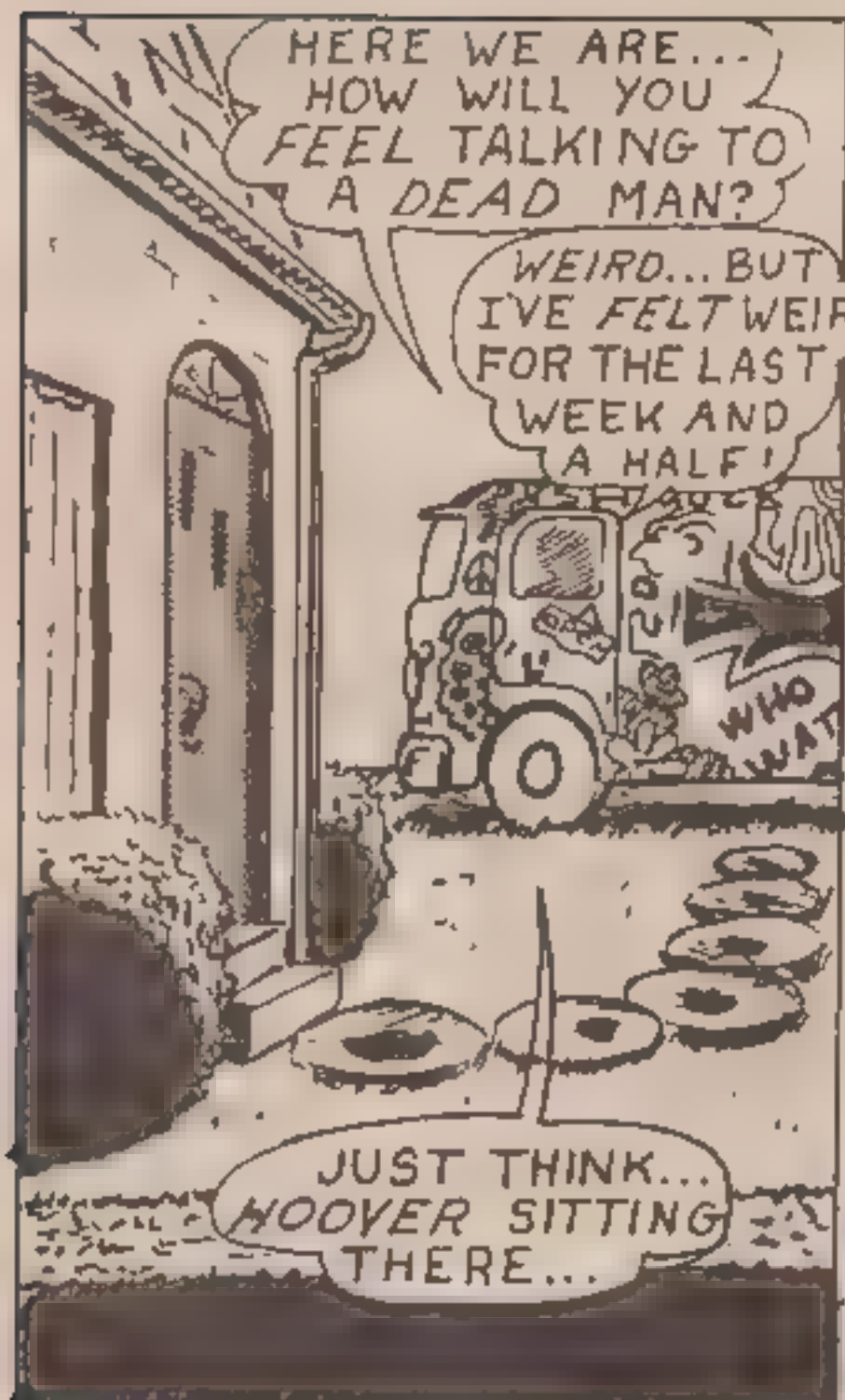
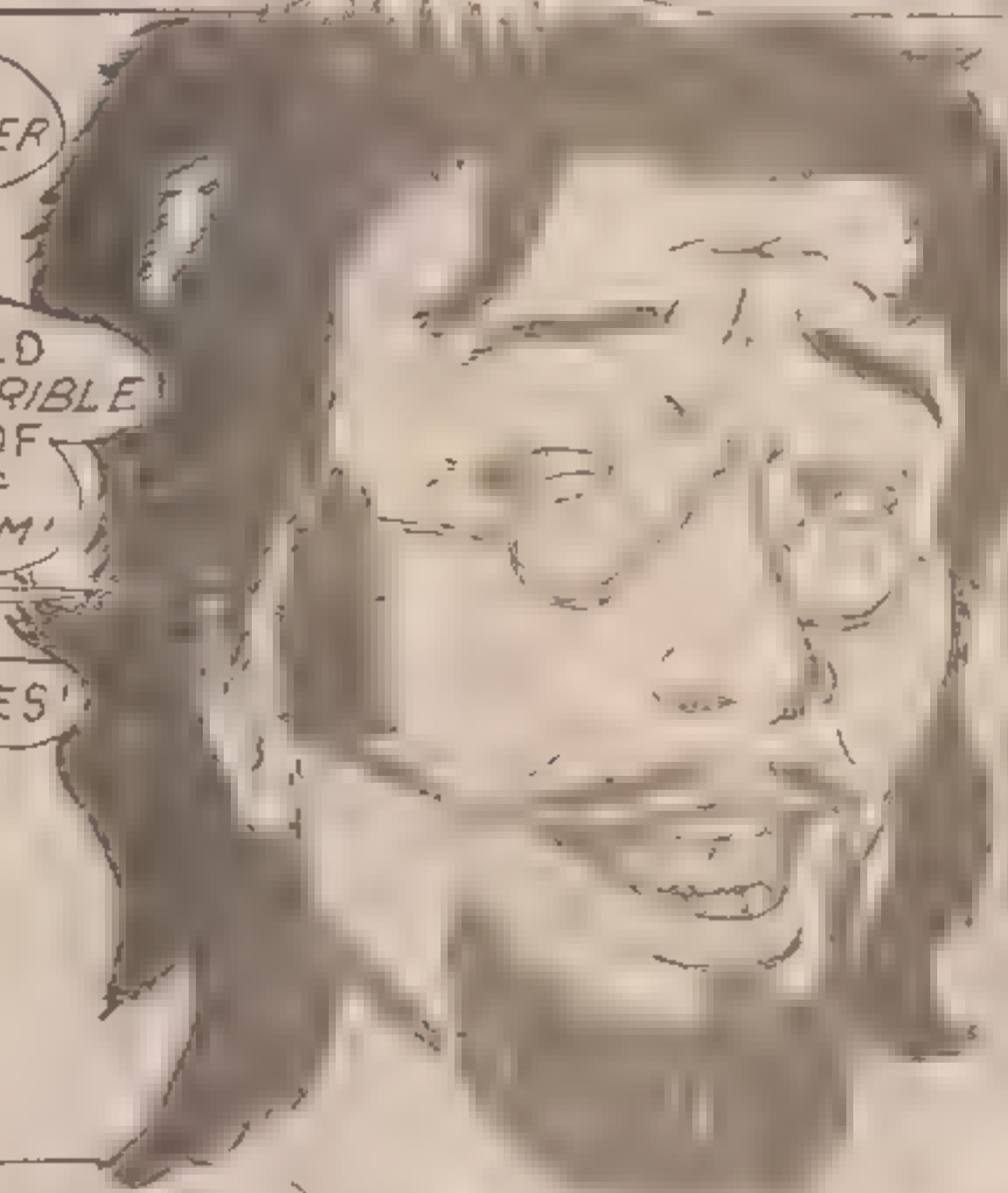
READY
TO TRY
ACID?

YES!

RIGHT
ON! FIRST, THOUGH,
YOU'LL MEET
HIM.
HIS BUNGALOW'S
NOT FAR.

HOW OLD IS...
OUR LITTLE
GROUP...
EXACTLY?

SINCE 1888
THAT'S WHEN
'KICKED OUT THE
JAMS



HERE WE ARE...
HOW WILL YOU
FEEL TALKING TO
A DEAD MAN?

WEIRD... BUT
I'VE FELT WEIRD
FOR THE LAST
WEEK AND
A HALF!

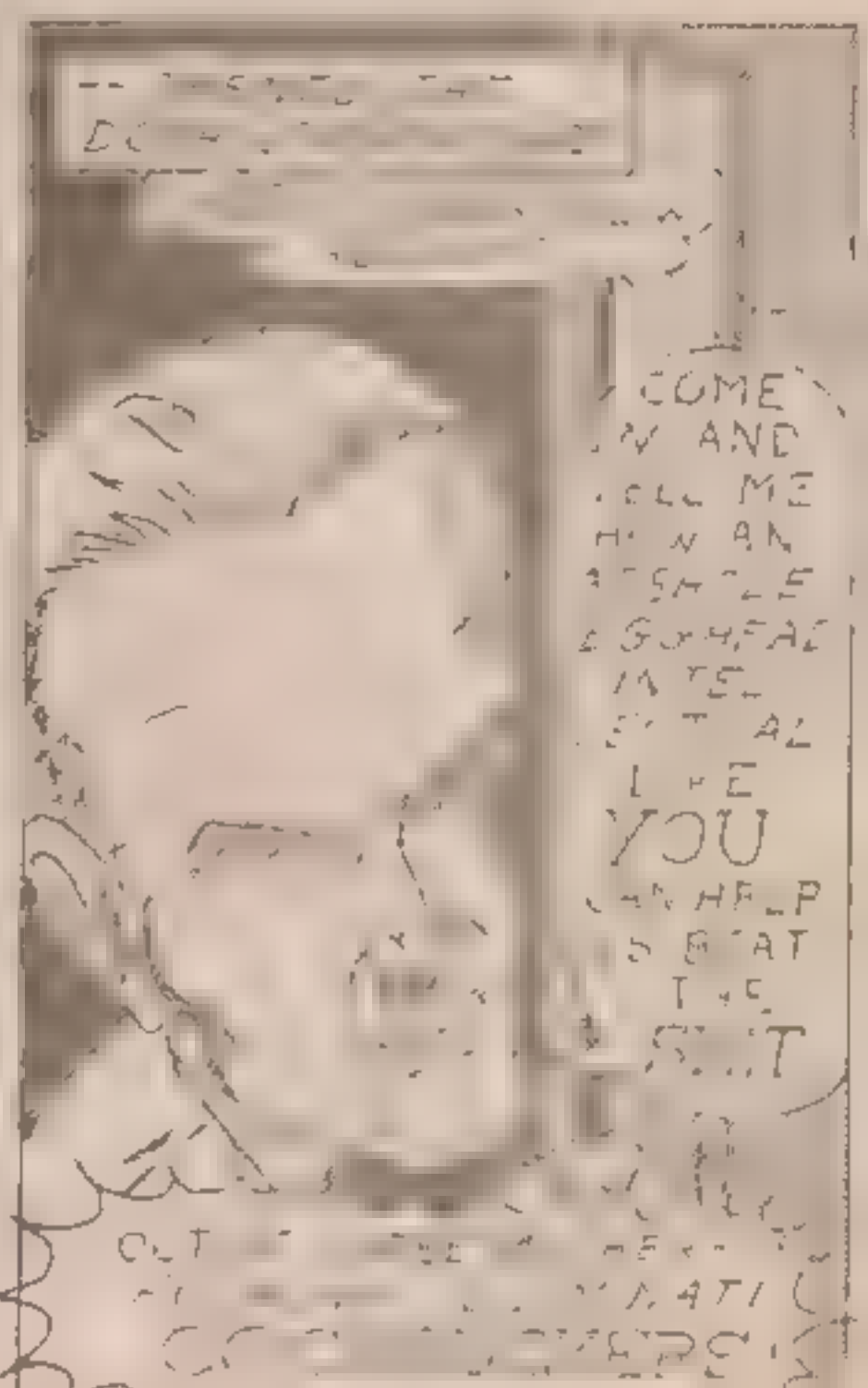
JUST THINK...
HOOVER SITTING
THERE...



... HALF SUSPECTING
HOW WED SUCKERED
HIM.

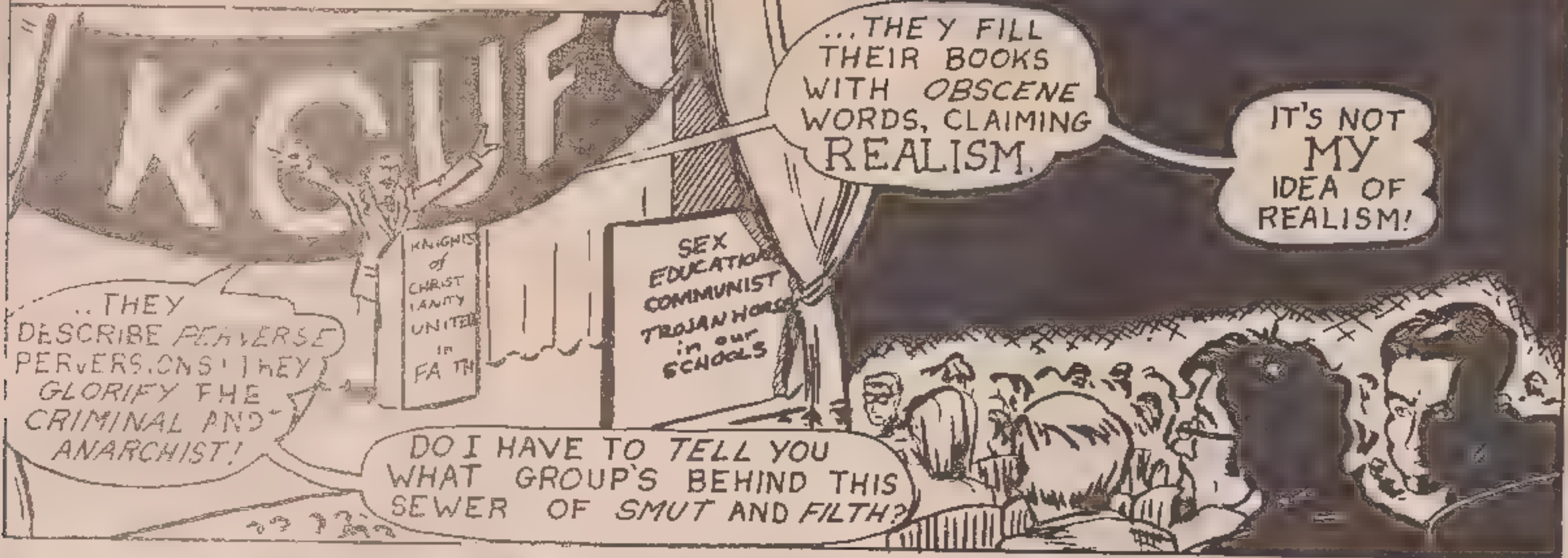
WHAT
A FRONT, EH?
(CHUCKLE!)

SIMON KNOCKED A LITTLE
OLD MAN--5'7" EXACTLY--

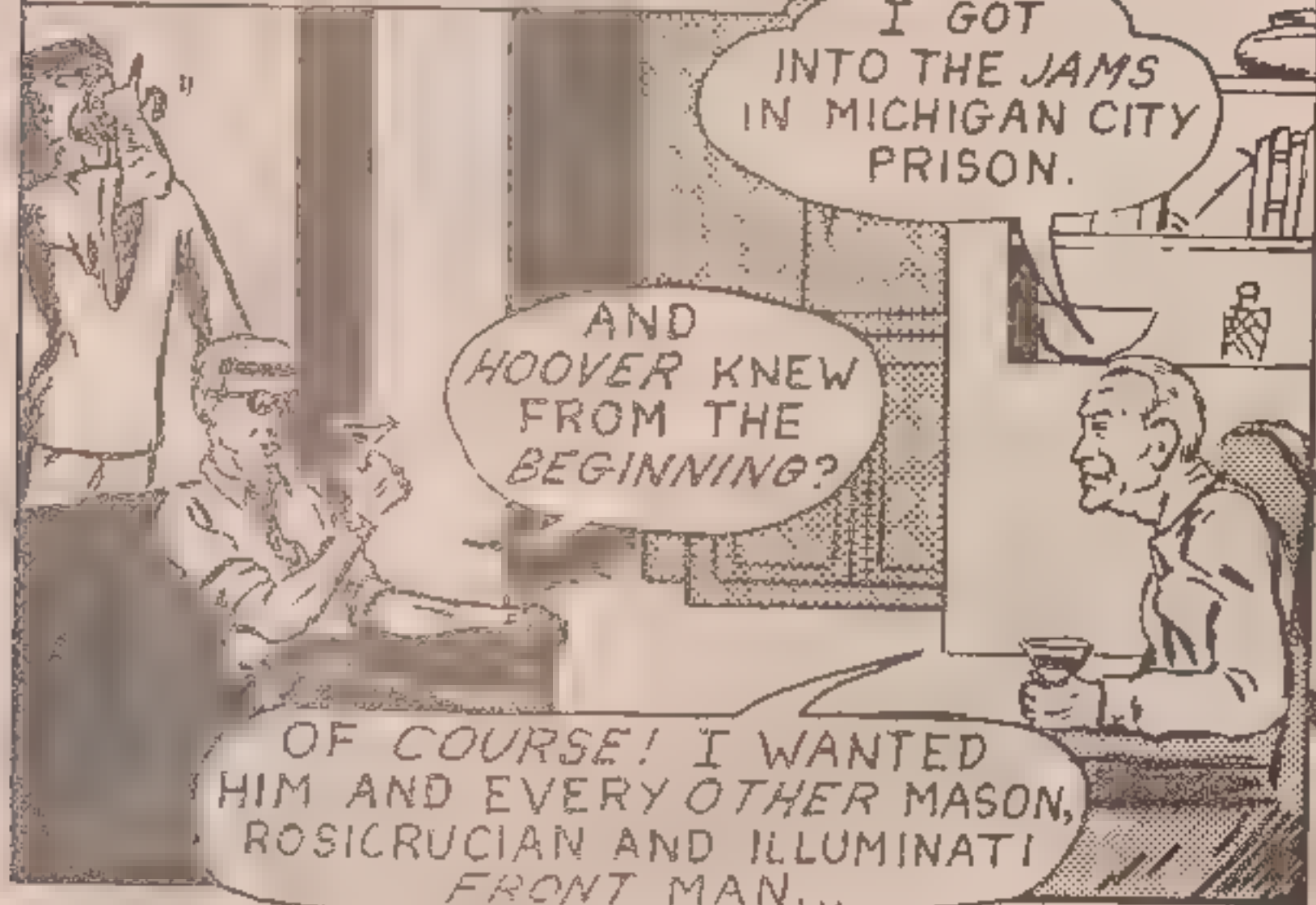


COME
IN AND
TALK ME
HOW AN
ATTEMPT
A GUY FAC
INTEL
CENT AL
LIVE
YOU
CAN HELP
IS THAT
THE
SENT

AND IN 1970, "SMILING JIM" RANTS:



1969, DILLINGER'S BUNGALOW.



PIERPON I INITIATED ME. HE'D BEEN WITH THE JAMS FOR YEARS I WAS A KID IN MY 20'S.

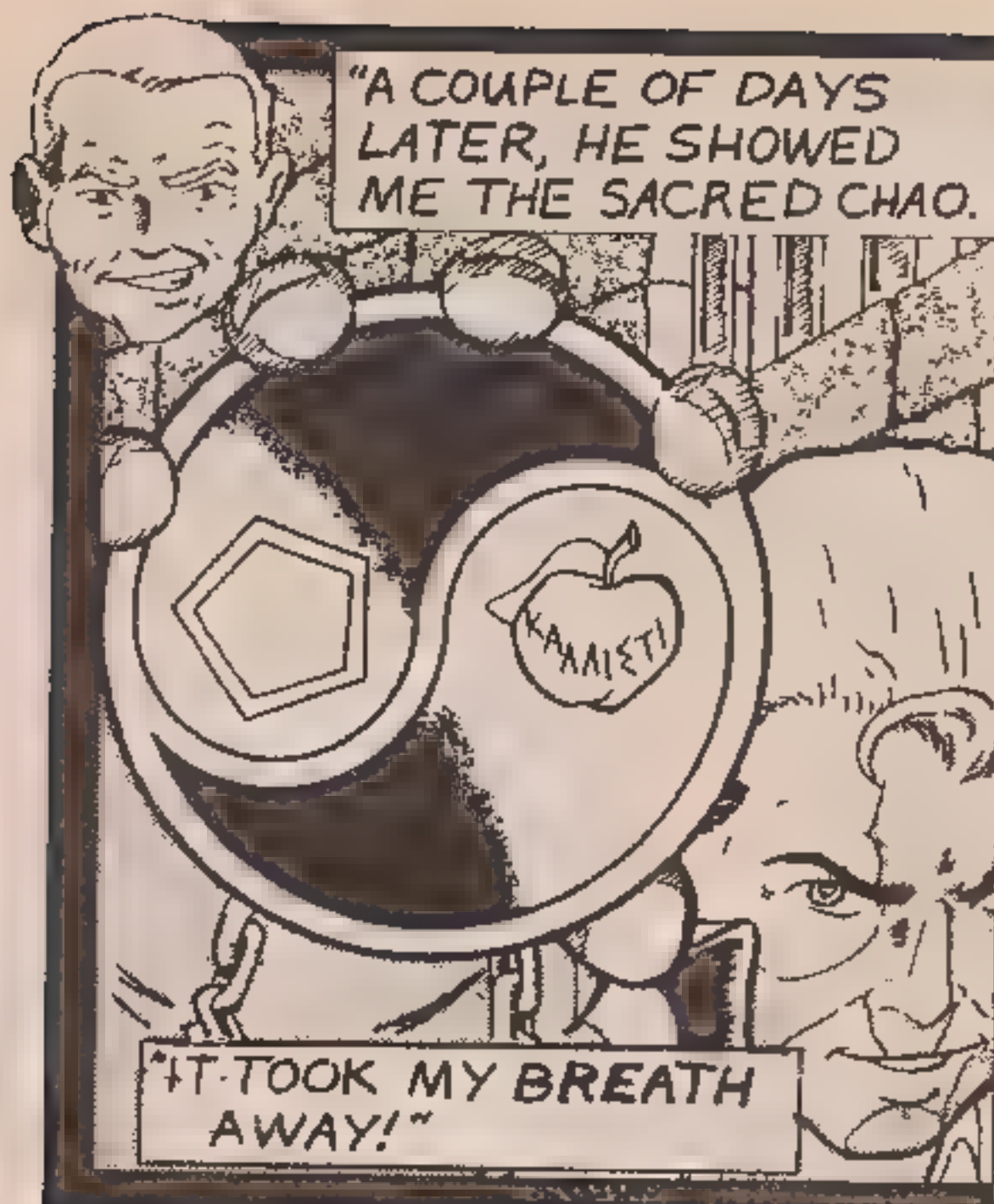
"AFTER A LOT OF BULL ABOUT JESUS, JEHOVA AND THE BIBLE, HE ASKED ME:

DO YOU THINK THERE MIGHT BE A TRUE RELIGION?

...IF THERE IS, I HAVEN'T HEARD OF IT.

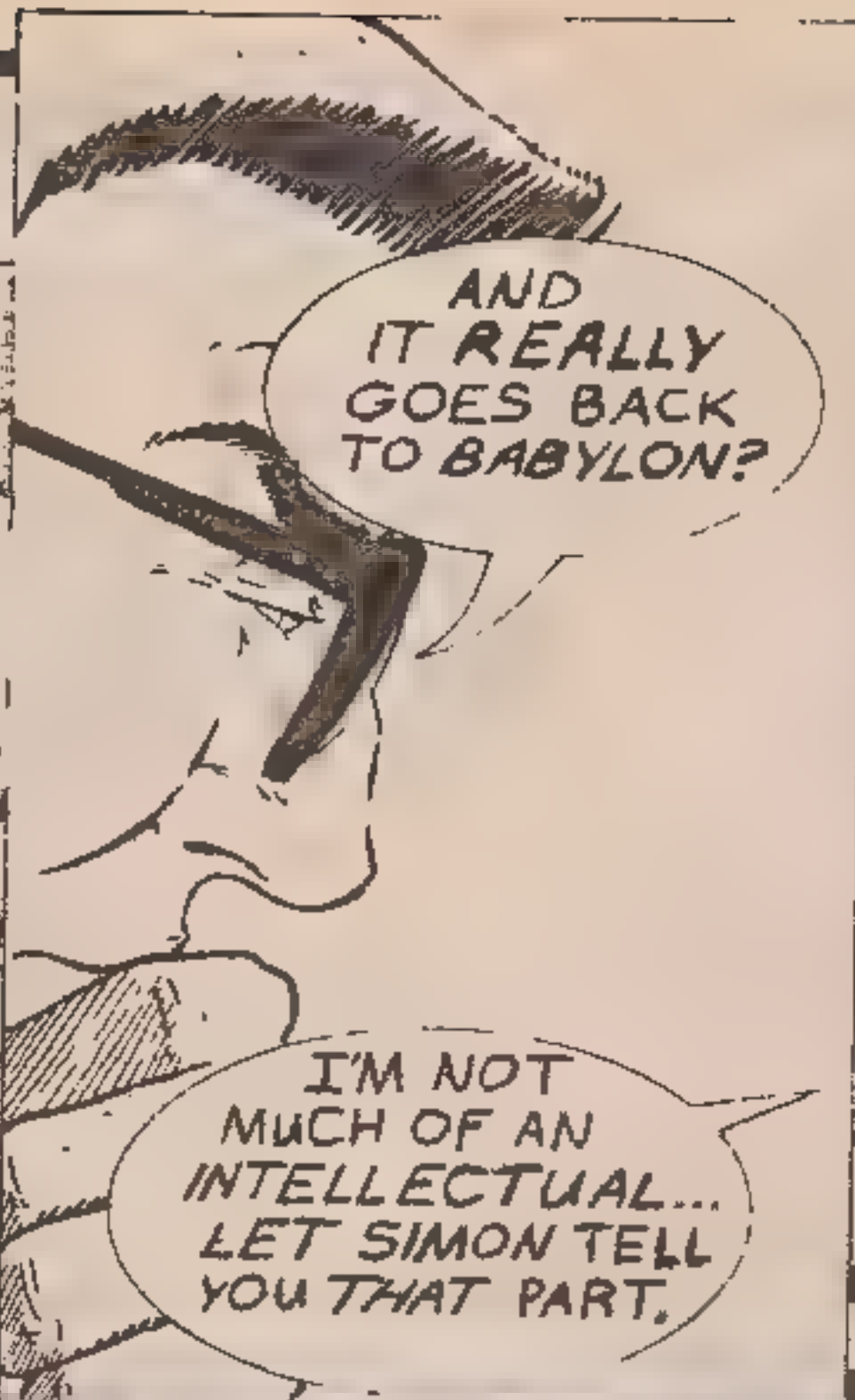
MOST PEOPLE HAVEN'T.

"I THOUGHT HE WAS A FAGGOT, BUT HE WAS A BIG-TIME BANK ROBBER, SO I PLAYED ALONG.



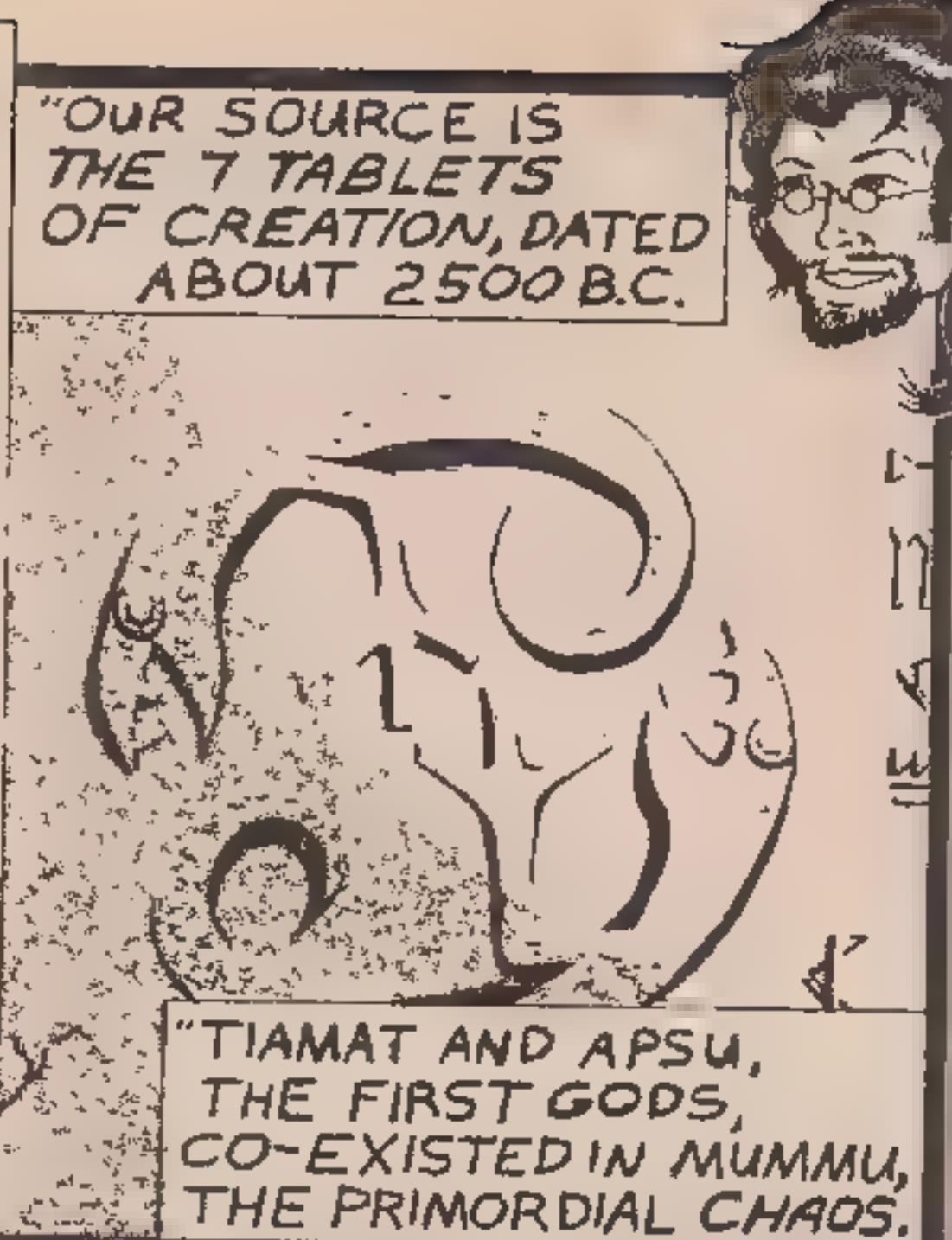
"A COUPLE OF DAYS LATER, HE SHOWED ME THE SACRED CHAO."

"IT TOOK MY BREATH AWAY!"



AND IT REALLY GOES BACK TO BABYLON?

I'M NOT MUCH OF AN INTELLECTUAL... LET SIMON TELL YOU THAT PART.

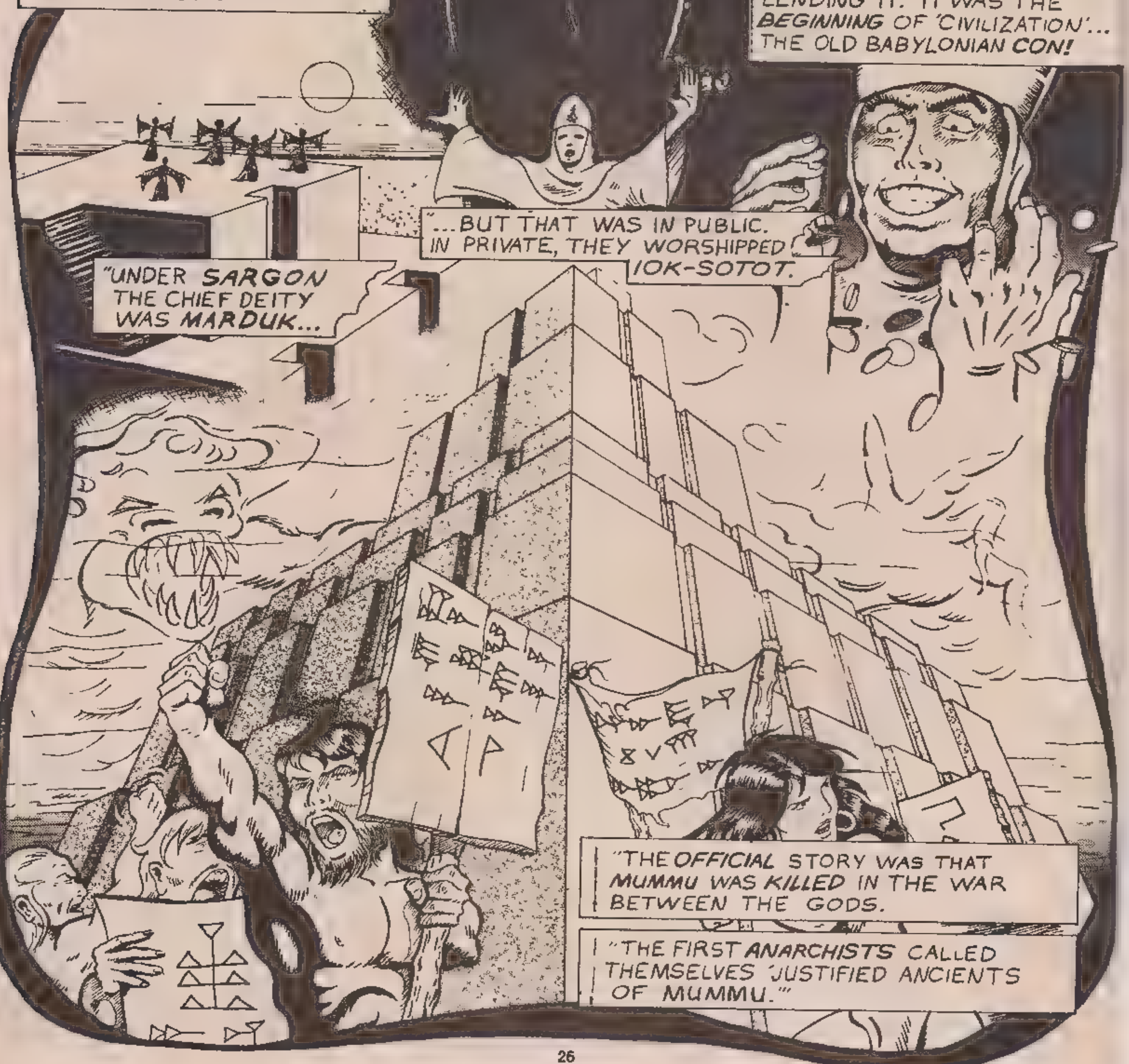


"OUR SOURCE IS THE 7 TABLETS OF CREATION, DATED ABOUT 2500 B.C."

"TIAMAT AND APSU, THE FIRST GODS, CO-EXISTED IN MUMMU, THE PRIMORDIAL CHAOS."

"VON JUNT'S UNAUSPRECHLICHEN KULTEN TELLS HOW THE JAMS ORIGINATED, BACK WHEN THE 7 TABLETS WERE INSCRIBED."

"THE OFFICIAL RELIGION WAS BASED ON USURY. THE PRIESTS MONOPOLIZED MONEY AND CHARGED INTEREST FOR LENDING IT. IT WAS THE BEGINNING OF 'CIVILIZATION'... THE OLD BABYLONIAN CON!"

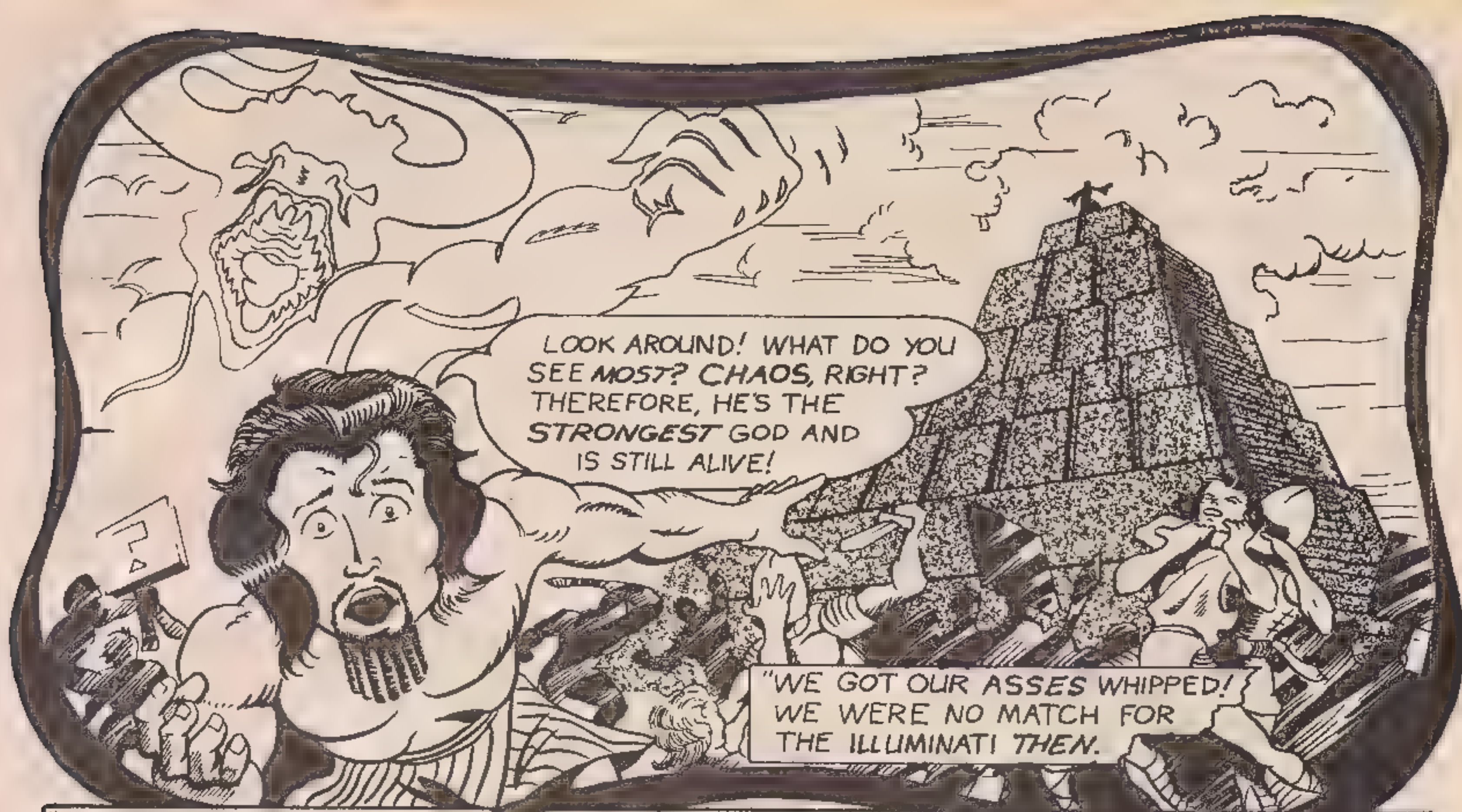


"UNDER SARGON THE CHIEF DEITY WAS MARDUK..."

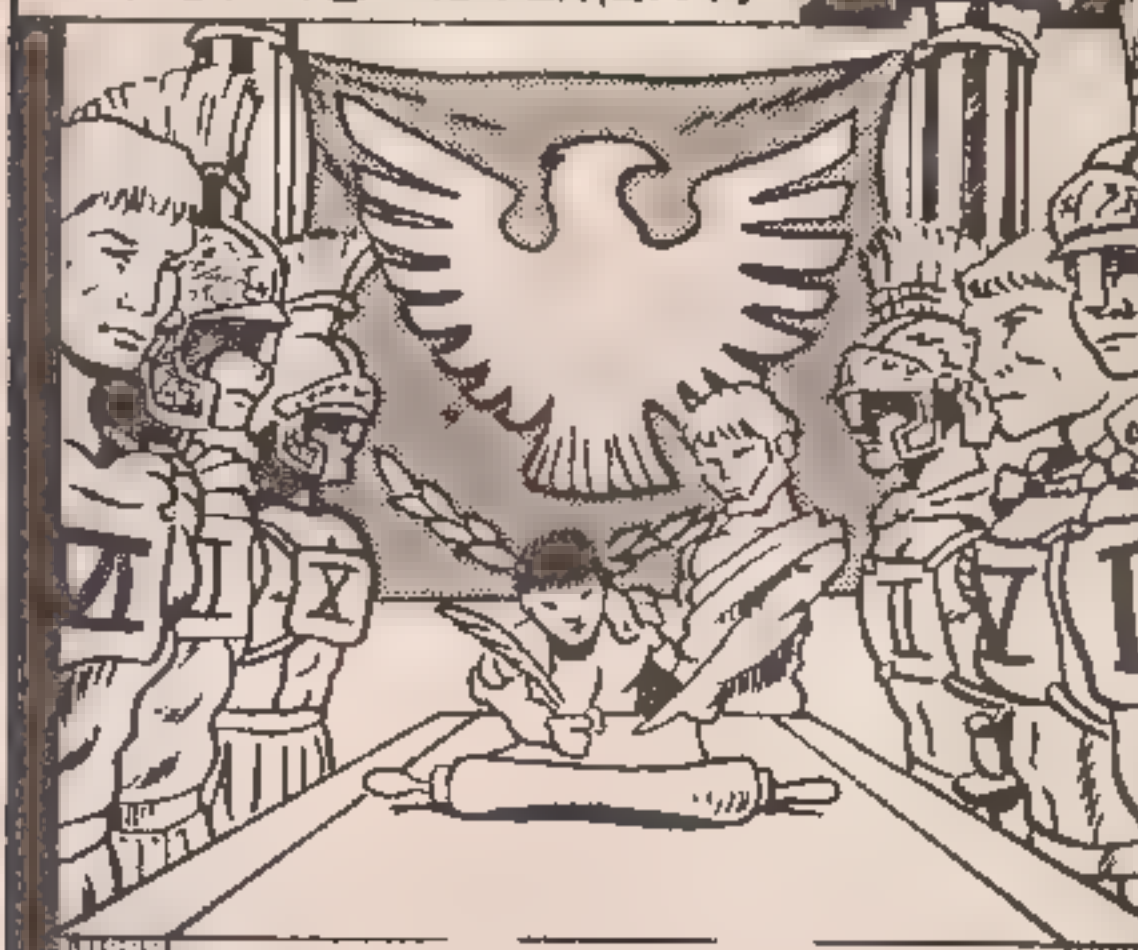
"...BUT THAT WAS IN PUBLIC. IN PRIVATE, THEY WORSHIPPED IOK-SOTOT."

"THE OFFICIAL STORY WAS THAT MUMMU WAS KILLED IN THE WAR BETWEEN THE GODS."

"THE FIRST ANARCHISTS CALLED THEMSELVES 'JUSTIFIED ANCIENTS OF MUMMU.'"



"WE JAMS GOT WHIPPED AGAIN IN GREECE AS PART OF THE CYNIC MOVEMENT."



"IN ROME, THE TRUCE TOOK PLACE. WE BECAME PART OF THE ILLUMINATI, THINKING WE'D HUMANIZE THEM."

"AND SO IT WENT-- UNTIL 1888, WHEN..."

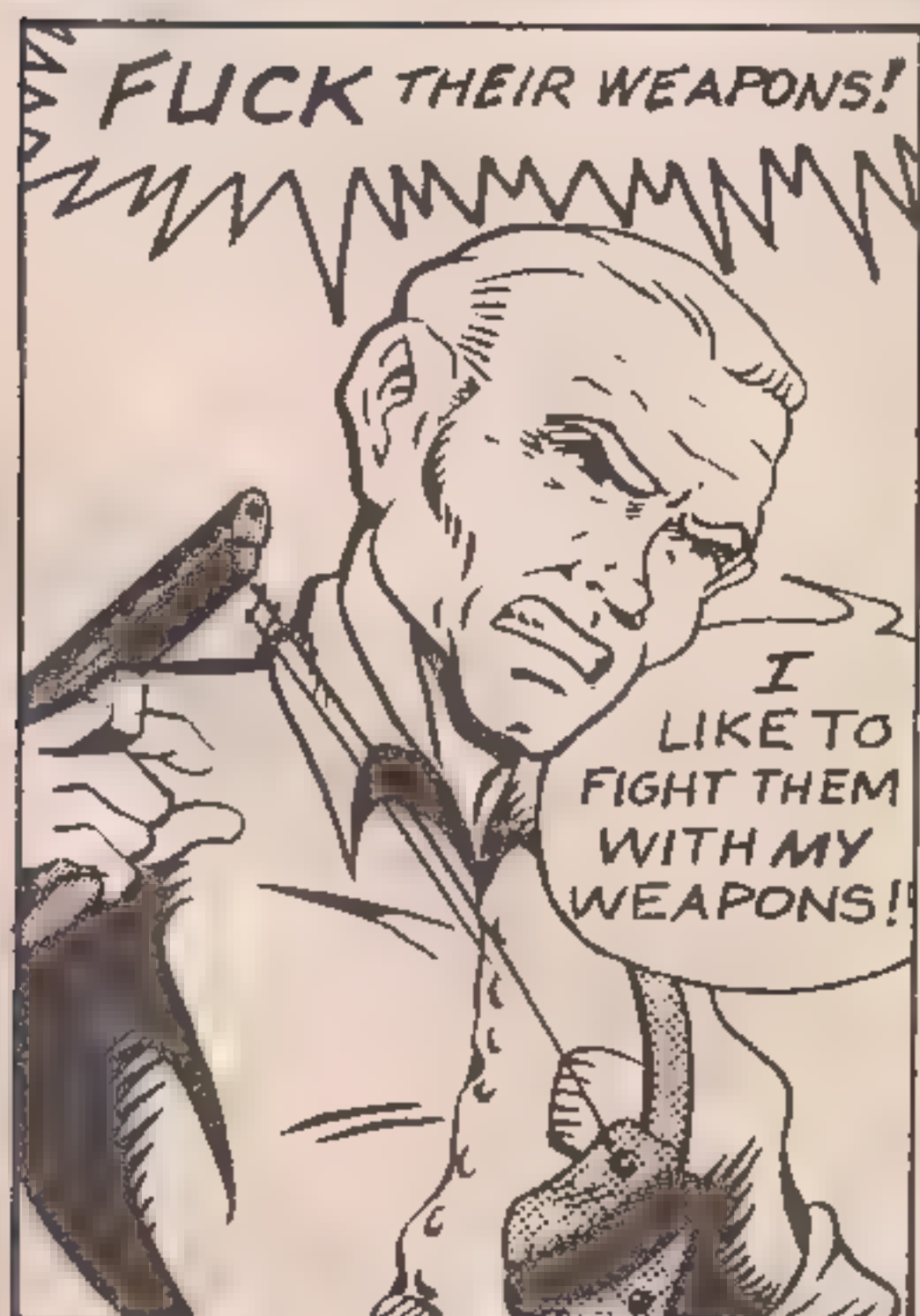


CECIL RHODES STARTED THE CIRCLE OF INITIATES.

"EVERY MEETING RHODES' BOYS CAUSED TROUBLE."



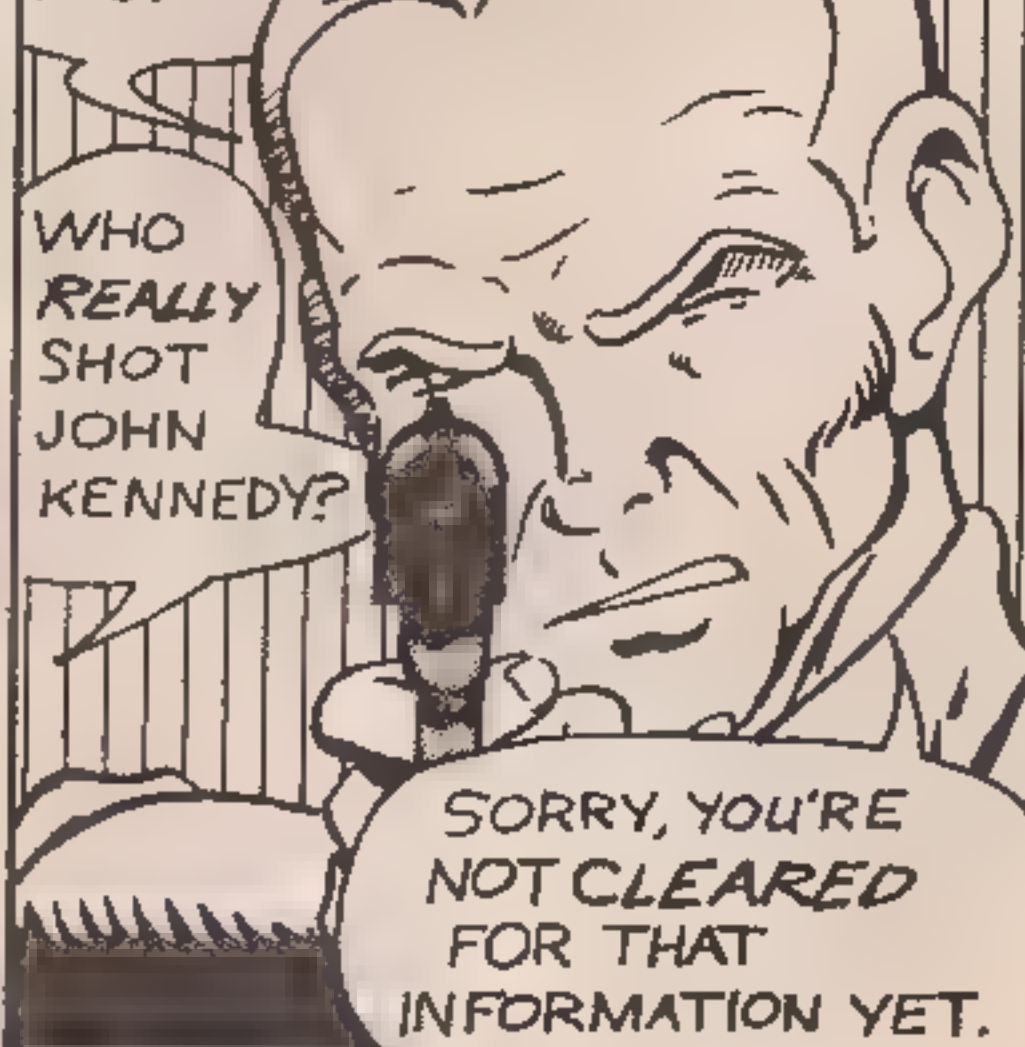
"BUT NOW WE KNOW HOW TO FIGHT THEM WITH THEIR OWN WEAPONS."



YOU'RE BEHIND THE RECENT UNSOLVED ROBBERIES?



UNTIL THE MC5 CUT "KICK OUT THE JAMS." THE ILLUMINATI OWN MOST RECORD COMPANIES.



I'LL TELL YOU THIS MUCH: HIS INITIALS ARE **H.C.**--- SO DON'T TRUST **ANYBODY** WITH THOSE INITIALS...

...NO MATTER WHERE OR HOW YOU MEET THEM.

DALEVILLE, ILL. JULY 17, 1933, THREE WEEKS PAST DILLINGER'S PAROLE AFTER NINE YEARS IN PRISON...

I'VE GOT TO WALK THRU THAT DOOR ALONE -- IT'S MY TURN TO BE THE GOAT.

23
SKIDOO!

ALL RIGHT, THIS IS A STICK-UP! EVERYBODY LIE DOWN ON THE FLOOR & KEEP CALM. NONE OF YOU WILL GET HURT!

DON'T WORRY, HONEY, I DON'T WANT TO HURT **ANYBODY**. JUST OPEN THE VAULT.

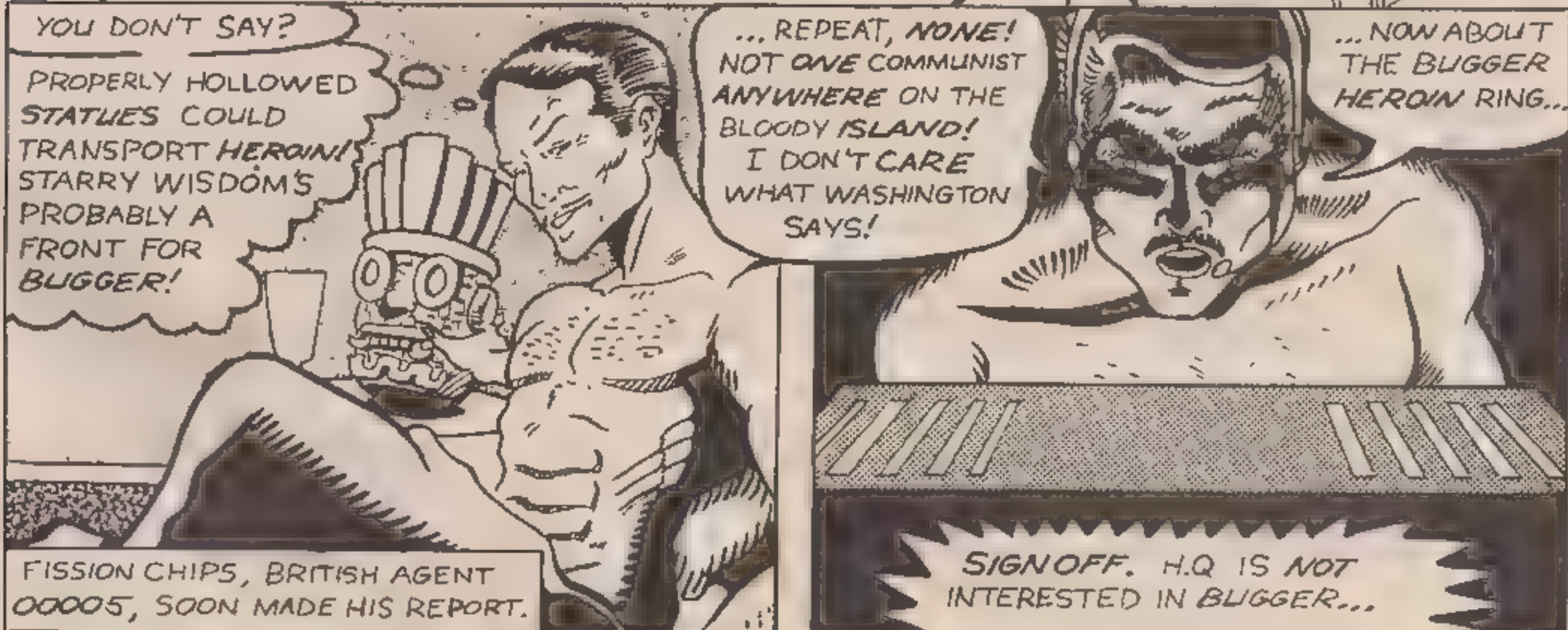
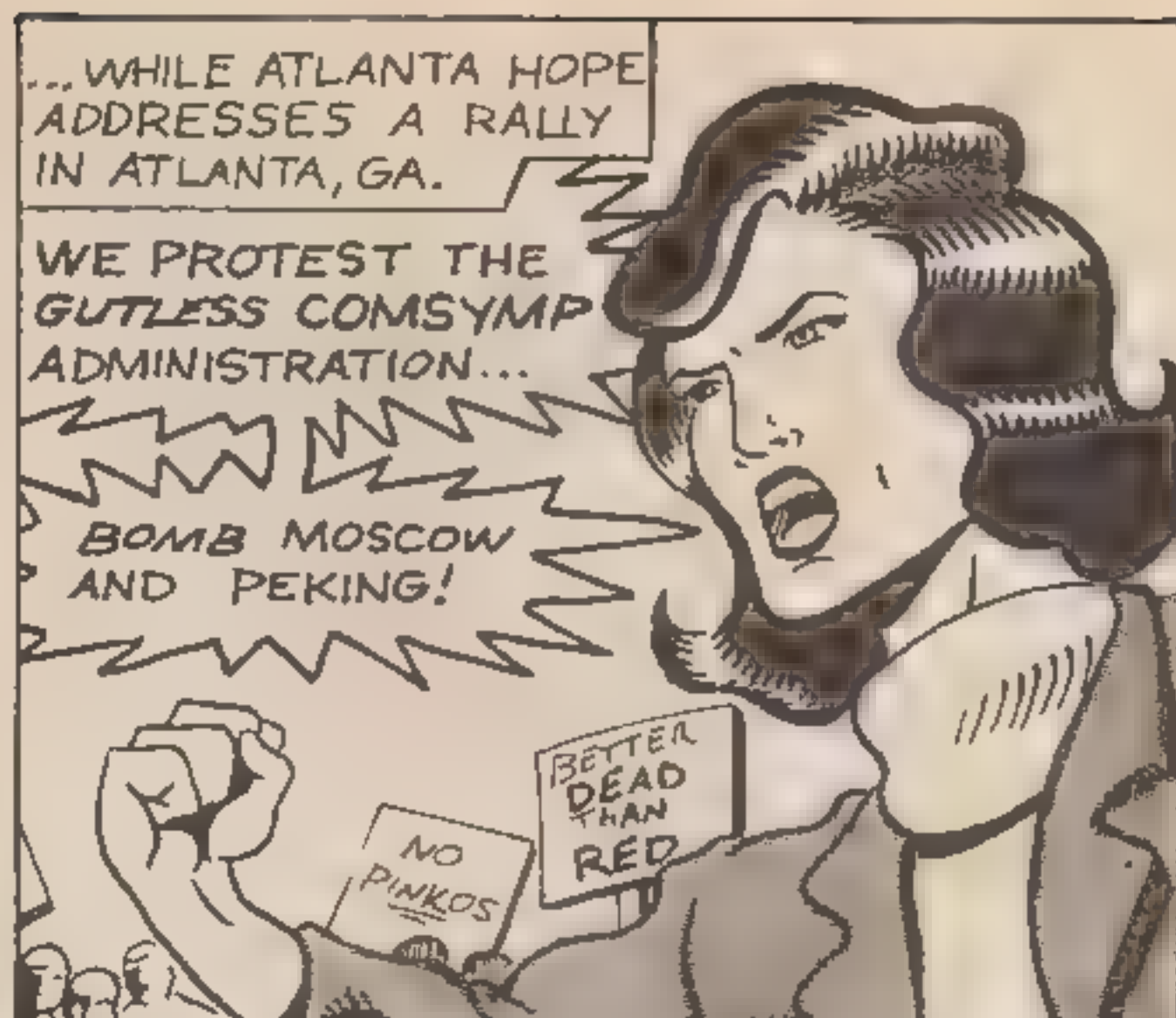
OH, GOD!
DON'T SHOOT!
PLEASE
DON'T SHOOT!

THAT AFTERNOON I MET A GUY IN THE WOODS WHO LOOKED LIKE **CALVIN COOLIDGE**."

"YOU MET HIM AS **BILLY GRAHAM**. HE TAUGHT JOHN THE **ENERGY TRANSFORMATION**...

...THAT LET JOHN WALK THRU THE PRISON WALLS. AFTER **FEAR** IS CONQUERED, YOU CAN CONTROL THE **ENERGY FIELD!**"

"DAMN NEAR **BLINDED** ME AND **KNOCKED** ME ON MY ASS, THAT 1ST TIME IN THE WOODS!"





TEN MINUTES LATER
THE **GO** SIGNAL CAME FROM
THE **WHITE HOUSE**.

A FLEET OF **SAC BOMBERS**
HEADED FOR **SANTA ISOBEL...**



NEXT: BOOK TWO--
ZWEITRACHT!

TRIP FOUR:
JESUS CHRIST ON A BICYCLE.



The trial continued, and when all was said and done in court, the verdict came down: *Omaha* was pornography.

This may seem trivial, but there's a government act out now called the RICO laws, governing Racketeering and Corrupt organizations. According to these statutes (please consult Robert Ingersoll's column in Comic Buyer's Guide for more relevant details...), if one is convicted twice in five years of racketeering (which includes pornography charges), then the assets of the person convicted, and all those associated with them in the enterprise, whether or not it is a legal partnership, can be seized and sold by the government to pay for court charges. Which means, theoretically, if you gave a ride to someone going to work in a porno store four years ago, you might have all your property seized because of it.

Although this example is unlikely, similar things have happened! There's a documented case of a convenience store being busted for selling dirty videos and magazines along side *Time* and *Superman*, and all the people's assets being taken from them. What's more, if my memory's right, they didn't even have to be convicted to have this happen...just charged.

The implications are strange. For instance, if Marvel had this happen (and consider that *Blood* was seized in Canada for pornography), all of New World Pictures could be scooped up by the government.

(Also strange in this regard was the fact that, when Revlon's Chairman bought Marvel, a reprint edition of *Blood* was released...who was legally liable for that, the old owners or the new?)

Closer to home, with the scenes in this book, my wife could have lost her house if some ambitious prosecutor decided to press the point.

Things have resolved themselves since then. The distributors rallied to the defense of Friendly Frank's and *Omaha* (in particular, Capital City, who held fund raising art auctions at the Chicago Comicon and at San Diego). An unpublished version of the Tantrik page in the 1st issue was given to them for the San Diego auction, and I saw a copy of *Brother Power* #1 go for an *incredibly* high price.

The Friendly Frank's case was taken to the Court of Appeals, and the conviction was overturned: *Omaha* is no longer pornography.

So now the world is somewhat safer, and we have some kind of legal boundary to play with about exactly how much sex is pornography. And, much as I hate to say it, we'll probably stay safely on the legal side of that line. I wish that it did not exist.

The footnote to the story's even more sad...the RICO laws are currently being used by the Christic

Institute's suit against certain CIA-backed drug rings, as expressed in Moore and Sienkiewicz's *The Shadow Team* from Eclipse. (Anyone suspect, as I do, that Reagan didn't know, and Bush did?) So now, of course, there's government legislation pending to make private citizens' use of the RICO laws invalid, leaving it simply up to the government's judgement who is and is not "bad" enough to be prosecuted by these statutes...and, of course, making it so that government agencies are retroactively immune to prosecution by those statutes.

And some folks thought I was paranoid...

But I was just looking after the safety of my friends and family. I will, in these pages, give credit to anyone that definitely wants it, such as artists Eric Burza, Jeff Haas and Eric Piccione. I'll also give credit where credit is due to A.C. Fish, my wife and sometime business partner (who lettered much of this work, and whose art and production skills helped pull the whole thing together). And I will also have the courage of my own convictions to sign my own name to this work...

Mark Philip Steele

Well, it's now over a month since this lettercol and the interior art were due at the publisher's, and we've blown that deadline tremendously. The interiors were due Jan. 15 (!), and we, like Saddam Hussein (current incarnation of the Mad Arab?), blew our deadline. (Saddam Hussein=Hassan Sabbah?) Oh, well, at least no one will start a war over our comic not coming out on time.

Eric Piccione's stint on the interior of this title begins this issue. You may notice that the first chapter in this issue, before he takes over, is more....disjointed than usual. Consider it an experiment in recreating in graphics format the shifting of text styles that Shea and Wilson used to good effect in the original novels. Next issue, if all goes right, you'll see something different...one penciller, inker and letterer on the whole book! (This is predicated on no further deadline blowing...).

Now let's get on to some of the letters from the most recent incarnation of this title:

TF: 910206 e.m.

Greetings, Icarus!

Delighted to see ILLUMINATUS! #2 hit the streets after the *long* hiatus! Probably should have written before, but so it goes! The Illuminati M/C exists to promote Erisian awareness, and interface

between the Biker and Magickal subcultures— another metaprogram of Operation Mindfuck! We manifested on this plane for the first time in July, 1982, in the little Bavarian town of Kochel am See, and made our inaugural run a pilgrimage to Ingolstadt, via Schizo Freddy's in Munchen! Since then the dis-organization has swelled, fnord, and includes a motley crew of Discordians, Witches, Thelemites, Chaoists, WoMen and Psychick Youth! Fun for all, all for fun! Primarily motorcyclists, we also have the Yacht Club and Push-bike divisions, all designed to advance the evolution of our members, and befuddle the masses! The old dictum "We Discordians must stick apart" has worked to our large disadvantage, as well as the disturbing tendency for our members to disappear once having the Colors conferred upon them, causes my heart to pulse with gladness to see the revival of your comic via Rip Off, as it 'll reach more folks than almost any other means! We urge all Chaotically-oriented Erisian biker-types to contact us, as well as all the other Sub-Genioid conspiratorial slackers out there! Surprises await those who do! Keep up the goodly works! Hail Eris!

Yours in Chaos,
Havoc 23
Prez. I-M/C
P.O. Box 9490
Tacoma, WA 98409

Nice to hear from you, Havoc! Been reading about your M*rv*1 Universe counterpart for years. Thanks for the patch and other info...'tis appreciated.

Maybe more letters later...have one more in the new bag (somewhere...? Chaos definitely reigns around here...), and there were a few letters trimmed from last issue's column that may be printed. SOMEHOW, despite the fact that this incarnation of the book is doing better saleswise than the first, the letters are not coming in as well. So...

Illuminati BBSers:

We are running a discussion room for fans, etc., of the ILLUMINATUS! series and related concepts on the Citadel BBS system in various cities across the country. We are hoping to expand this list in the near future, so if you have a computer and modem, perhaps you can link into this network in the near future.

Systems that I am aware are running this discussion room are:

MI:Arcadia	(616) 343-0413
MI:Black Hole	(616) 343-7487
MI:The Beach	(616) 349-5887
MI:Thunder Island	(616) 685-6456
NC:TechObsol	(919) 846-4038
IL:The Quest	(217) 546-7608
AB.CA:Poopsie	(403) 288-4981
AB.CA:Lunatic Haven	(403) 526-6957

I am also aware of Citadel BBSes NOT YET carrying the room in the following areas, and will provide the numbers to anyone interested who sends a SASE:

- MA:Boston
- NY:New York; Utica
- GA:Atlanta
- FL:Tampa/St. Petersburg
- MN:Minneapolis (Lots!—this is the main hub of the network)
- CO:Denver
- UT:Salt Lake City
- WA:Seattle/Tacoma
- OR:Portland
- CA:San Francisco, Sacramento
- Canada:Nova Scotia

There are more in the network, but these are all nodes that can route mail to the hub at Arcadia, and thence to me on either The Beach or Black Hole BBSes without having to call LD boards. Write me here for more details...

The network would also be happy to ADD anyone in willing to run this BBS program on their computers. The program is public domain, and can be provided by any SysOp running a BBS.

With any luck, I'll be able to give interested people demos of this at the Chicago Comicon in late June and at the World SF Con there in September.

Coming Events

We at Eye-n-Apple Productions are hoping to be at the following events this summer. If you have a chance to make it to one of them, look for us!

- Elf-Fest '89, near Bloomington, IN
May 23-27, Memorial Day Weekend

This is the 8th annual festival for these folks, they throw fests several times a year at their land sanctuary, Lothlorien. I've been involved with them since before the group's founding, and recommend going at least once. If you get into the woods and nature, this is the place to be.

Cost: \$45 (before May 14th); \$60 (at the gate). This includes a \$10 1 year membership, which gives you camping privileges on the land and being put on their mailing list. They can be contacted at:

Elf Lore Family
PO Box 1082
Bloomington, IN 47402

- Chicago Comicon
June 28-30, Chicago, IL

The BIG Comicon in this part of the country. I've been going to it for a few years, and have always thoroughly enjoyed it. Last year, they put us in the Dungeon Underground with Larry Welz of *Cherry* fame, and with Reed Waller, *Omaha the Cat Dancer's* artist and creator. Good time all around. (And if A.C. gets her Frazetta armor or Omaha costume done in time this year...) 8-}

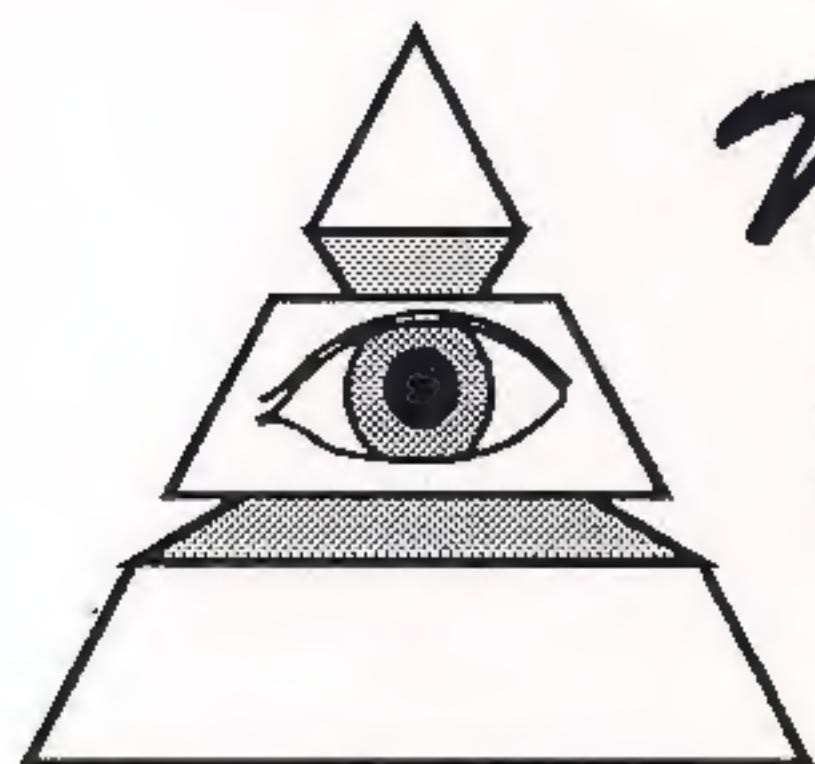
Cost: \$8 per day or \$15 all three days before Jun. 1st, plus hotel accommodations. More information at:

Larry Charet
1219 W. Devon Ave.
Chicago, IL 60660
(312) 274-1832

With any luck, we'll be able to have Bob Shea come out one of the Con days.

Speaking of which...Bob Shea and possibly Bob Wilson will be appearing at the World Science Fiction Con over Labor Day Weekend. I'd say more, but suffice it to say that it will be in Chicago, and that there's also a possibility of getting Bob Wilson at the San Diego Comicon the weekend after the 4th of July.

Later—
ICARUS!



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MINATI PROJECT: MEMO #13

8/5

...vival of the Bavarian Illuminati throughout the
...century and into the twentieth is the subject of
...olution by Nesta Webster (Constable and Com-
...don, 1921). Mrs. Webster follows Robison
...on the early days of the movement, up to
...Revolution, but then veers off and says that the
...never intended to create their Utopian anar-
...unist society: that was just another of their
...ir real purpose was dictatorship over the world,
...they soon formed a secret alliance with the world,
...government. All subsequent socialist, anarchist, and
...communist movements are mere decoys, she argues, be-
...hind which the German General Staff and the Illuminati
...are plotting to overthrow other governments, so Germany
...can conquer them. (She wrote right after England fought
...Germany in the First World War). I see no way of
...reconciling this with the Birchers' thesis that the Illuminati
...has become a front for the Rhodes Scholars to take over
...the world for English domination. Obviously—as Robison
...states—the Illuminati say different things to different peo-
...ple, to get them into the conspiracy. As for the links with
...modern communism, here are some passages from her
...pages 234-43:

But now that the (First) Internationale was dead it
became necessary for the secret societies to reorga-

CONFRONTATION

THE ILLUMINATI



From the Desk of...

Joseph Mallin

$$2+3=$$

Eric Poon